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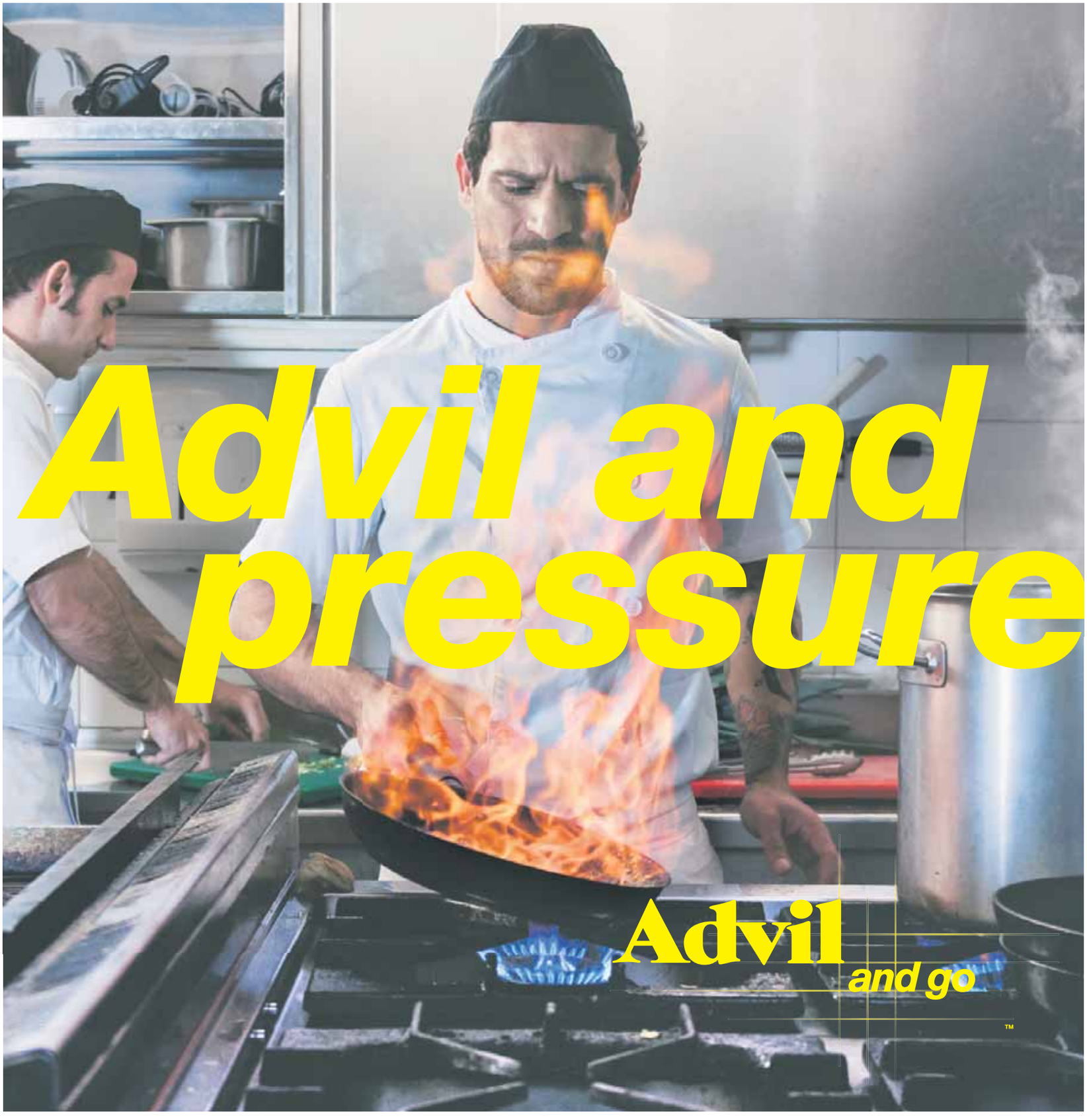
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 24, 2015



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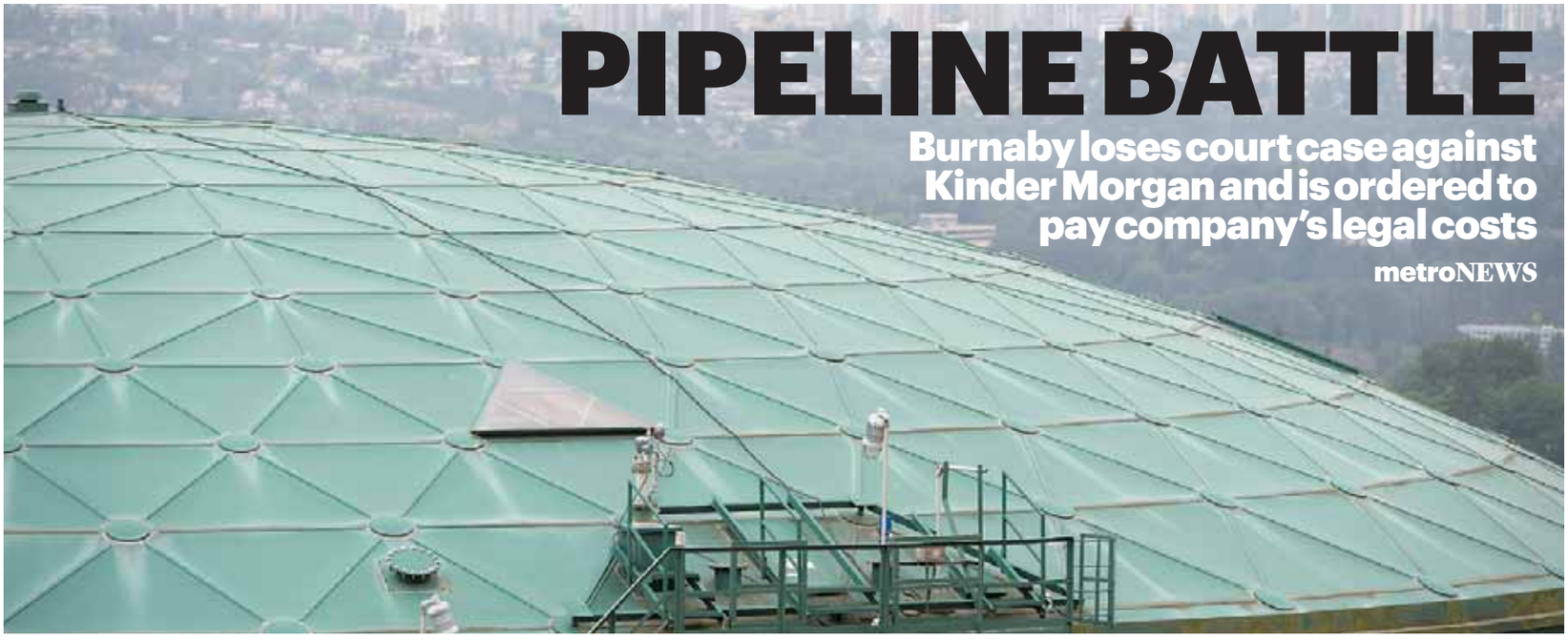

PIPELINE BATTLE

Burnaby loses court case against Kinder Morgan and is ordered to pay company’s legal costs

metroNEWS

The city of Burnaby is pictured in the background behind an oil tank at the Trans Mountain Pipeline terminal. JONATHAN HAYWARD/THE CANADIAN PRESS FILE

Offers to help pour in for refugees

SYRIANS

Immigrant service gets employment, housing leads

Emily Jackson
Metro | Vancouver

Thousands of Metro Vancouverites stand ready to volunteer when the federal government reveals exactly how it plans to resettle 25,000 Syrian refugees by 2016, a strategy expected to be announced Tuesday.

The Immigrant Services Society of B.C. has been flooded with an “unprecedented” number of calls from prospective volunteers and people offering long-term housing or employment, director of settlement services Chris Friesen said Monday.

As of Monday morning, ISS of B.C. had received 3,239 calls from volunteers asking how to help, 726 prospective housing leads and 93 employment leads from companies and individuals willing to provide Syrians with their first jobs in Canada, Friesen said. Elementary school students from Surrey and Vancouver have even sent in a few hundred dollars in what he described as an “overwhelming interest in humanity.”

And B.C. will need all the help it will get as it welcomes nearly four times as many refugees (up to 3,500 from Syria) as it typically gets in a year (up to 900 from around the world).

“It’s not going to be easy. It will be messy, but we’ll survive,” Friesen said.

While specific resettlement details won’t be known until Tuesday, Friesen said government-assisted refugees could arrive in Canada as early as Dec. 1. They will likely spend a few weeks in Toronto or Montreal before moving to B.C., he said, where the most pressing need is housing.

Local developers have offered some housing units. Westbank is donating 12 fully furnished units in a West End apartment building for four months and Thind Developments is giving seven units in an apartment on Kingsway. The Urban Development Institute sent a missive to its members searching for additional space.

In the meantime, ISS of B.C. created an online portal to make it easy for the public to submit housing and employment leads.

“Canadians from coast to coast to coast are coming together in helping to provide the best possible start,” Friesen said. “It will be an exceptionally meaningful holiday season I believe, regardless of faith.”

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Province fails on TransLink: Poll

TRANSIT

Forty-four per cent of people give a 'very bad' rating

Matt Kieltyka
Metro | Vancouver

British Columbia's Liberal government gets a failing grade when it comes to managing TransLink, according to a new poll.

Insights West and Business in Vancouver released their annual B.C. government report card on Monday, which asks people to rate Premier Christy Clark's government on a range of issues.

The lowest ranked category this year is the government's management of TransLink.

Just 10 per cent of survey respondents said the government has done a "very good" or "good" job managing the transit authority.

Thirty-three per cent rate the government's management as "bad," while 44 per cent say it has done a "very bad" job.

NDP transit critic George Heyman said he's not surprised the government's performance on TransLink ranks lowest during a year when it imposed a plebiscite on transit funding in the Metro Vancouver region and ruled out any changes in the transit authority's governance model after the plebiscite failed.

"They have frustrated the people of the region who want to see the problems fixed," said Heyman. "This government is just not there for them."

A recent poll has found that British Columbians are not satisfied with the province's handling of TransLink with only 10 per cent of people surveyed saying the government has done a "good" or "very good" job. JENNIFER GAUTHIER/METRO FILE

The provincial government has taken steps recently to put more attention on TransLink.

In July, Clark took the portfolio out of the Ministry of Transportation and made Peter Fassbender the Minister Responsible for TransLink.

It then appointed former Vancouver police chief Jim Chu and former Surrey city manager Murray Dinwoodie to be the first-ever provincial representatives on TransLink's board of directors.

Speaking to the Urban Development Institute last week, Fassbender admitted he's been put in charge of a challenging portfolio.

"I'm not naive enough to believe it's going to be easy, and there has been a lot of debate," said Fassbender. "But we clearly, as a government, know how important an integrated, sustainable transportation system is for the future of B.C. and Metro Vancouver."

Despite "critical" demands for reform by the region's mayors, Fassbender has ruled out changing TransLink's governance.

Instead, he has called on TransLink's board, the mayors and the provincial government to concentrate on improving their working relationships.

Fassbender also expressed urgency to take advantage of the increased infrastructure spending promised by Justin Trudeau's new federal Liberal government.

But Heyman said that will be impossible if the region can't first find a way to fund its third of the mayors' proposed 10-year, $7.5 billion transit plan.

The province's insistence that any new funding source must go to a plebiscite vote has handcuffed the region, the critic argues.

"They're going to be standing at the back of the line (for federal funding)," said Heyman.

> **"This government is just not there for them.**
> George Heyman

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Burnaby loses pipeline battle

TRANS MOUNTAIN

Court orders city to pay fees, cites federal supremacy

The City of Burnaby's bylaw battle against the Trans Mountain pipeline has been shut down by a B.C. Supreme Court judge who has declared that the National Energy Board (NEB) rules take precedence over the city's.

The Metro Vancouver city has tried to hamper preliminary planning of the 1,100-kilometre-long pipeline between Alberta and coastal B.C. through two separate bylaws.

But Justice George Macintosh said in a ruling posted online Monday that the NEB has the constitutional power to direct or limit the enforcement of Burnaby's bylaws.

Macintosh said the energy board can take such action when city bylaws interfere with or block the regulation of the pipeline and expansion project, ruling NEB laws are supreme.

"Where valid provincial laws conflict with valid federal laws in addressing interprovincial undertakings, paramountcy dictates that the federal legal regime will govern," said Macintosh.

"The provincial law remains valid but becomes inoperative where its application would frustrate the federal undertaking."

Macintosh ruled the city's bylaws were lawful but constitutionally inoperative and inapplicable.

"Burnaby appears from the filed evidence to be using the bylaws to make Trans Mountain's preliminary work on the expansion project difficult, if not impossible, to undertake," he added.

A spokeswoman for the City of Burnaby said officials received Macintosh's ruling on Monday and will be reviewing the decision and considering an appeal.

Macintosh decided not to rule on a separate constitutional question raised by the city, calling the question "an abuse of process."

In that question, the city asked the court to rule that the energy board did not have the "constitutional jurisdiction" to direct or limit the enforcement of bylaws by the city.

Macintosh declined to answer, noting the city had failed to win the same argument in earlier hearings before the Federal Court of Appeal and the energy board.

The city was ordered to pay the company's legal costs.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

A Burnaby trails crewman found stumps where **trees had been cut down for preliminary pipeline work** on Sep. 2, 2014 in the Burnaby Mountain Conservation Area. JENNIFER GAUTHIER/METRO FILE

PROTESTS

Mounties arrested more than 100 people during protests last year on Burnaby Mountain, where Trans Mountain crews were conducting test drilling.

A judge later tossed out civil contempt charges against many of the activists who were arrested for violating a court injunction ordering them to stay away from the drilling areas.

The company admitted that it had provided the wrong GPS co-ordinates when it asked for the original court order and the measurements were so inaccurate that the site was outside the area covered by the injunction.

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Canadian musician Neil Young leaves after a news conference in Vancouver, B.C., on Monday for the Canadian launch of his PonoPlayer portable music player and the PonoMusic music download service. DARRYL DYCK/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Neil Young pleased by Liberals

CELEBRITY

Rocker in town to unveil his audio player, online store

Music icon Neil Young has declared that "Canada is back" now that a Liberal government has taken charge in Ottawa.

"I'm very happy," said the 70-year-old Canadian who has lived in California for years.

The singer-songwriter was in Vancouver on Monday to debut his high-resolution audio player and online store, under the PonoMusic brand, in Canada.

Young said he's received many e-mails and phone calls from Canadian friends revelling in the new government of Prime Minister Justin Trudeau.

"Obviously people are delighted with the change that has taken place. It's very positive news."

He wished the newly minted cabinet well on the same day provincial premiers were meeting in Ottawa to discuss a national strategy on climate change, an issue he has also championed.

He said he's hopeful officials will take different action than the former Conservative government, but then said corporations have more money and power than governments.

"So really, it's up to the people to take the situation into their own hands," he said, explaining that consumers have buying power and can change the world through their habits.

"The politicians really don't have the power to change the world."

Young has been a long-time environmental crusader and stirred controversy last year when he used his celebrity status to amplify opposition to Alberta's oilsands.

He held a cross-country tour to get Canadians talking about First Nation treaty and environmental issues. Young later partnered with environmentalist David Suzuki and spoke out against oil pipelines.

> **The politicians really don't have the power to change the world.**
> Singer-songwriter Neil Young

Young reflected with optimism on Alberta's new carbon tax introduced by Premier Rachel Notley.

On Sunday, Notley announced the province will also phase out coal-fired power plans and cap emissions from the oil sands.

"The carbon tax is capitalism working," Young said, heralding it as a mechanism for slowing down the release of carbon into the atmosphere.

"Anything that does that is a good thing."

The tax is also a good test for the public to see if the government has enough strength and sway to overcome the corporations he believes controls them, he added.

Young launched the PonoPlayer in the U.S. in March 2014.

He said he doesn't care if the product is a "gigantic, fast-moving, super-success," instead, his goal is to generate a resurgence in high-quality music.

"The whole mission of this is a labour of love, and we've been banging against a lot of walls with this," he said. "But we're persisting because we have something that is going to endure. Music deserves to be preserved."

Zeke Young, Neil's 43-year-old son, who also works for PonoMusic, said he sees no signs that his father is slowing down as a musician, businessman or activist.

"Nope," he chuckled. "He just doesn't stop."

The junior Young said his father's influence extends beyond his fans.

"He has a passion for trying to do better things for the planet and for families," he said. "That's what keeps him going. And of course, music."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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New stroke drug excites

HEALTH

Paramedics from B.C. will take part in trials for NA-1

Paramedics in Vancouver and Richmond have joined colleagues in two Ontario locations to take part in a drug trial that could greatly improve outcomes for stroke patients.

Emergency Health Services said the B.C. paramedics, along with those in Toronto and the Region of Peel, will administer a clinical study drug called NA-1, a substance that limits brain damage if a stroke occurs.

Eligible stroke patients will either receive NA-1 or a placebo.

EHS said results of the trial could help researchers assess the effect of speedy treatment by paramedics, before patients even reach hospital.

Almost two million brain cells die each minute after a stroke, making quick assessment and treatment crucial.

An ambulance waits outside the Teck Emergency Centre at St. Paul's Hospital in downtown Vancouver. THE CANDIAN PRESS/ERIC DREGER

Stroke Services B.C. spokeswoman Pam Ramsay said that if NA-1 reduces the devastating impact of strokes while a patient is on the way to hospital, the results could have tremendous impacts on recovery and rehabilitation. While consent is required before participants are given a product in most studies, that would not be the case for stroke patients in the randomized trial of 558 patients.

Dr. William Dick, vice-president of medical programs for B.C. Emergency Health Services, said paramedics are at the forefront of groundbreaking medical research for the trial.

"We hope that this drug will one day reduce the often-disabling impact of stroke and help stroke sufferers fully recover," Dick said in a statement.

A stroke causes a sudden loss of brain function because of interrupted or severely reduced blood supply.

EHS said stroke affects 62,000 Canadians and kills more than 11,000 people in the country every year.

> **"We hope that this drug will one day reduce the often-disabling impact of stroke.**
> Dr. William Dick

IN BRIEF

Homeless man's death sparks funding for shelter

The death of a regular user of a homeless shelter on the Sunshine Coast has prompted some quick action from B.C. Housing.

A member of the region's homeless advisory committee, Kelly Foley, says extra funding for the operation was provided late last week.

The shelter is now open every night until the end of March, instead of opening only during extreme weather conditions.

Foley says the man, in his 50s, was found dead in a park in Gibsons just over a week ago, and pressure for increased funding began to build late last week.

She says the outpouring of support has been overwhelming and she is pleased at the response from B.C. Housing. Residents raised $3,300 for the shelter in three days. The online organizer says thanks to the new funding, the drive has ended and the cash will be forwarded to the shelter operators.

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SURREY

15 charges follow man's arrest

Thandi Fletcher
Metro | Vancouver

A Surrey man has been arrested after a bizarre series of events last week in which Mounties allege he confined a woman in a car, crashed the car and handed a loaded firearm to two youths asking them to hide it.

Saleh Mohammed, 22, was arrested Nov. 12 after what started as a report of a domestic disturbance in the Guildford neighbourhood around 6 a.m., Surrey RCMP said in a news release.

When officers arrived, police said the suspect, who they believe is involved the city's low-level drug trade, had fled the area in a vehicle with a confined woman held inside.

Soon after, police received a call that the same vehicle was involved in a single-vehicle crash on 148 Street and 80B Avenue.

The driver was arrested and the woman, who knows the driver, was found and returned to her family, police said.

While investigating the driver, police said officers found a loaded AK47 assault rifle, a restricted handgun and a large quantity of controlled substances believed to be cocaine and heroin.

After the crash and before police arrived, the suspect also allegedly gave two young witnesses who heard the crash a fully loaded firearm and asked them to hide it, according to police.

Police said the youths took the firearm and gave it to their father at home — who, in turn, called RCMP.

"The arrest of this individual is significant not only in disrupting the activities of those involved in the local drug trade, but also removing such dangerous weapons off our streets," Surrey RCMP Sgt. Paul Hayes said in a news release. "These criminals have a careless disregard for public safety and our detachment and community will not tolerate their actions."

Mohammed has been charged with 15 offences, including assault, forcible confinement, uttering threats toward police, possession of a weapons, careless use of firearm with ammunition, possession of a prohibited device, and possession for the purposes of trafficking.

He is still in custody and is scheduled to appear in court Nov. 25.

DELTA

Three charged after stabbing

Three youths face aggravated assault charges after an 18-year-old man was stabbed several times outside a high school in Delta.

The Delta Police Department says officers arrived on the scene at about 11 p.m. Saturday after a report about an altercation behind the school.

Police found a young man suffering from significant stab wounds and say he remains in hospital in critical condition.

The department says three male youths were arrested as they tried to escape. They have been remanded in custody.

Police say the victim and the suspects know each other and that officers are confident that there is no connection between the school and a fight that escalated to an extreme level. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Cow expert at head of the herd after breakthrough

AGRICULTURE

If successful, vaccines could save industry $3B annually

Thandi Fletcher
Metro | Vancouver

A B.C. researcher is developing two vaccines that he hopes will protect cows from contagious infectious diseases that affect livestock and, in turn, reduce the use of antibiotics in the cattle industry.

Bob Hancock, a microbiology and immunology professor at the University of B.C., said the two vaccines, if successfully made, will protect cattle from Johne's disease and bovine tuberculosis — diseases that collectively cost the cattle industry nearly $100 million in Canada and $3 billion worldwide annually.

"Usually what happens is because farmers are worried about the disease spreading from animal to animal, they often slaughter the animals," said Hancock. "(For bovine tuberculosis), if you get one animal that acquires this disease, they slaughter the entire herd as a prevention for the disease."

Johne's disease is caused by a bacterium that infects the small intestine of dairy and beef cattle, causing the intestinal walls to thicken and block the absorption of food. Infected animals continue to eat normally, but since they cannot absorb nutrients, they begin to waste and eventually die.

Hancock's research could protect cows from crippling diseases. MIRA OBERMAN/AFP/GETTY IMAGES

Bovine tuberculosis is a chronic disease caused by bacteria that occasionally affects animals, and causes coughing and eventual death in cattle.

While the vaccines will protect cattle from these diseases, people will also benefit, said Hancock, as bovine tuberculosis can spread to humans. The vaccines could also help reduce the overuse of antibiotics in livestock, which he said can result in resistance.

> **If one animal acquires the disease, they slaughter the herd**
> Bob Hancock

To develop the vaccines, Hancock is using "reverse vaccinology," which uses genomics to sequence the genetic material of the organisms that cause each disease. Using that knowledge, Hancock and his team will then clone every single possible antigen that could provoke an immune response, and screen these to see which work best.

"We've already done the prediction for Johne's disease and have found about 700 prospective antigens," he said.

While reverse vaccinology provides a "much more efficient and effective method of developing vaccines," he said the method is relatively expensive. So far, it has only been used to produce a vaccine against Neisseria meningitidis, a bacterium that can cause meningitis in humans.

Hancock said he was able to carry out his work after receiving $7.3 million in funding from Genome BC and Genome Canada. If the vaccines are proven to be successful, he said he believes reverse vaccinology will be more commonly used in the animal industry.

"I think if we can demonstrate enough success, I think reverse vacinnology will be used a lot more in the animal industry just because of the huge pressure to start getting away from antibiotics in agriculture."

Hancock, who is carrying out the work with University of Saskatchewan researcher Andrew Potter, said he hopes to start testing the vaccines in three years.

$100M

Between them, Johne's disease and bovine tuberculosis cost the cattle industry in Canada around $100 million per year, with the global total at $3 billion.

HOUSING SHORTAGE

Rent woe for single mothers

Emily Jackson
Metro | Vancouver

Single mothers face the hardest financial struggles to house their families in B.C.'s extremely tight rental market, according to a new study using 2011 census data.

One third of single moms spend more than half their income on rent, according to the Rental Housing Index released Monday by the B.C. Non-Profit Housing Association.

But it's not just single mothers who are struggling in B.C., according to the rental index that combined statistics with the 2011 National Housing Survey in order to paint a picture of renters' jobs, incomes, age, family status and whether they're overspending on rent.

It paints a pretty grim picture in B.C. and Metro Vancouver, which was ranked dead last out of 284 regions in Canada for critically poor affordability and overspending on shelter. There's a critical gap between what people earn and what they would need to make in order for housing to be affordable, defined as less than 30 per cent of income.

Many seniors, under-30s, Aboriginal people and immigrants are also in dire rental situations where they spend more than half their income on rent.

The association that created the index, along with Landlord B.C. and Vancity credit union, called on the government to create tax incentives to build and renovate rental housing.

Bright Nights to light up despite theft

STANLEY PARK

Thieves take $7,000 worth of extension cords

Emily Jackson
Metro | Vancouver

The Christmas lights will go on as planned in Stanley Park despite a Grinch who tried to thwart the display by stealing $7,000 worth of extension cords for the copper wire.

The Vancouver Park Board and the B.C. Professional Firefighters Burn Fund announced Monday the 18th annual Bright Nights Christmas Train will begin as scheduled on Thursday.

More than 800 firefighters volunteered their time to build the display, ensuring it would begin on time despite the Remembrance Day theft.

"We want to make certain everyone is able to enjoy this magical event," Burn Fund director Ray Boucher said in a statement, adding the event is open for extended hours this year.

More than 200,000 people are expected to visit the display. Trains depart every 4-1/2 minutes for a 15-minute trip through the park.

Funds raised at the donation bins go directly to the Burn Fund, which helps burn survivors and aims to increase public awareness about fire safety. More than $1.5 million has been raised since 1998.

Visitors are encouraged to bring non-perishable donations for the Greater Vancouver Food Bank Society.

The Bright Nights Christmas Train in Stanley Park. VANCOUVER PARK BOARD/ TWITTER

VISITORS

International tourism up in B.C.

Matt Kieltyka
Metro | Vancouver

The provincial government is celebrating a strong summer tourism season with the release of the latest Statistics Canada figures for overnight custom entries.

According to the latest numbers, the amount of international visitors in British Columbia increased by 7.6 per cent in September, compared to the same month last year.

The number of visitors from Japan were up 25 per cent, followed by a 14.5 per cent increase in American visitors, 11.5 per cent more South Koreans, 10.3 per cent more Germans and 7.8 per cent more from China.

The increases build on a record 2014, when the province experienced its highest growth overall in total overnight visitors and had the highest growth rate of international visitation of any other province.

"Tourism operators from across the province are having a good year, with revenues and occupancy rates up significantly," said Destination British Columbia CEO Marsha Walden in a statement. "And, as a bonus, several of B.C.'s skill hills and resorts have opened early, which should lead to a positive winter season and a superb finish to 2015."

Walden said the strong U.S. dollar has also led to more Canadians visiting B.C., instead of crossing the border.

> **Tourism operators from across the province are having a good year.**
> CEO Marsha Walden

IN BRIEF

B.C. Green to seek party leadership

British Columbia's lone Green Party member of the legislature is set to announce his official bid to run for party leader.

Oak Bay-Gordon Head MLA Andrew Weaver will announce his candidacy Tuesday at the University of Victoria, where he will follow his announcement with a speech.

Adam Olsen has been serving as interim party leader since late 2013 after former leader Jane Sterk retired.

Weaver made history in the 2013 provincial election when he defeated former Liberal cabinet minister Ida Chong to become the first Green elected to the B.C. legislature. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Man and woman charged after bomb material found

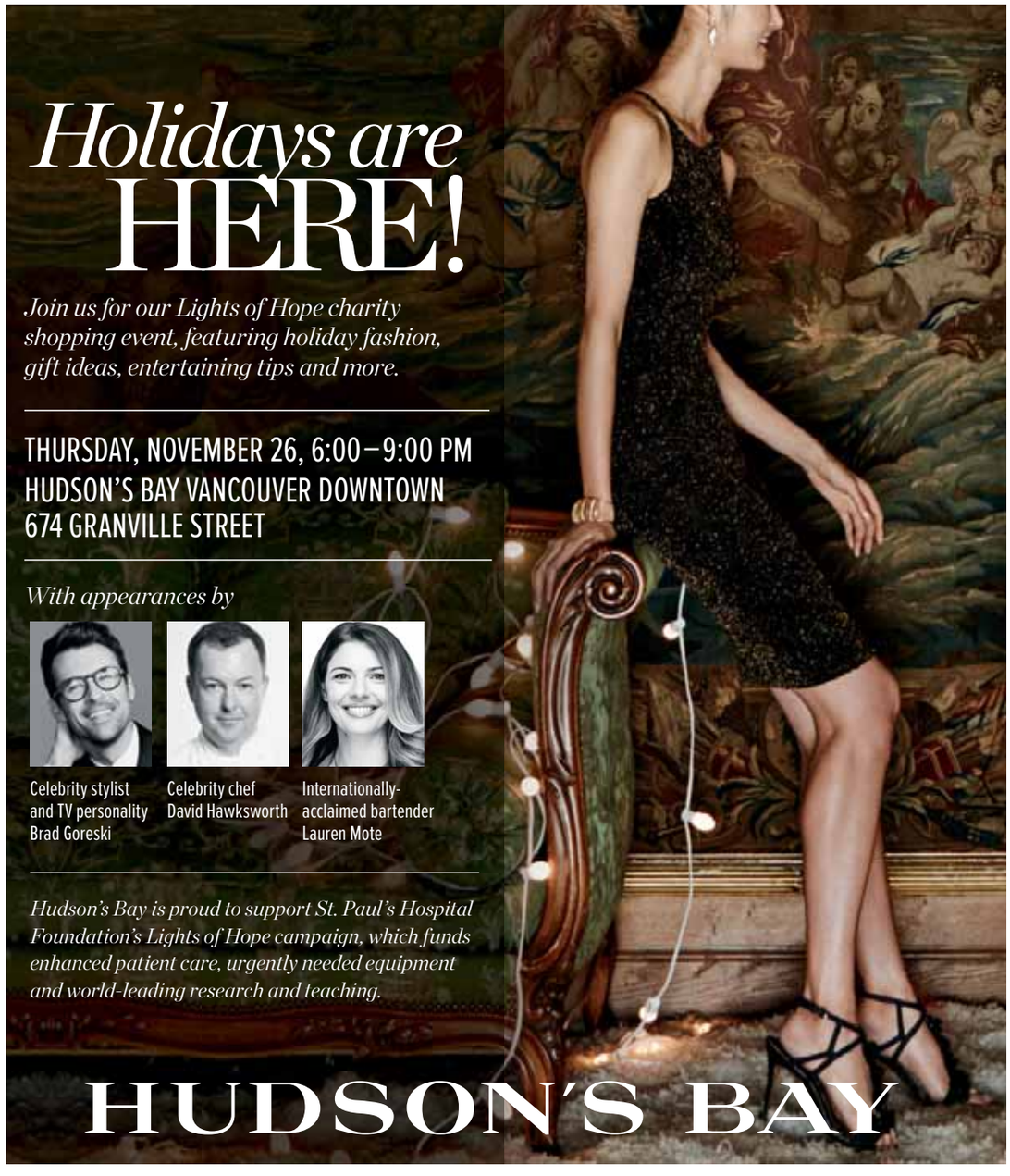
Two people have been charged after police seized a loaded assault rifle, two pipe bombs and bomb-making equipment at a house in Prince George.

RCMP say Dustin Olson and Meranda Dingwall each face seven charges, including two counts of possession of an explosive device.

Dingwall, 23, was to make an appearance in provincial court Monday.

Olson, 24, has been remanded in custody at least until his first court appearance on Dec. 1.

Police say the bombs had the potential to explode. They closed a block around the home before conducting a search last Thursday. THE CANADIAN PRESS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Chance to 'rebrand' Canada

CLIMATE CHANGE

Premiers hope nation can be environmental leader now

Prime Minister Justin Trudeau welcomes B.C. Premier Christy Clark to the First Ministers meeting in Ottawa on Monday, at the Canadian Museum of Nature.
ADRIAN WYLD/THE CANADIAN PRESS

The advent of new leadership in Ottawa and Alberta will allow Canada to shed its international reputation as an environmental pariah, premiers asserted Monday as they arrived for their first formal meeting with a prime minister in nearly seven years.

Premiers praised Justin Trudeau's willingness to take national leadership on the climate change file at next week's United Nations climate summit in Paris.

And they applauded Alberta Premier Rachel Notley for unveiling Sunday a climate strategy that includes a hard cap on greenhouse gas emissions from the oilsands, which have been labelled "dirty oil" by international critics, including U.S. President Barack Obama, and have become a symbol of Canada's alleged environmental neglect.

B.C. Premier Christy Clark said the international focus on the oilsands has obscured measures provinces have been taking to combat climate change, including B.C.'s carbon tax which she labelled the best in the world.

"We have had a black eye for a long time on environmental issues and we have not deserved it," she said.

"But now we're getting a chance to show the world really what we've been doing all these years and I think they'll be a little bit surprised."

The first ministers' meeting is not expected to produce any new national target for reducing emissions or policies for achieving it. It is aimed more at demonstrating a new tone in the run-up to the Paris summit. Within 90 days of the summit, Trudeau has promised to hold another first ministers conference to hammer out a national climate strategy.

At that point, the prime minister will have to mediate conflicting demands from premiers over how to disperse the billions he's promised in federal funding to help provinces reduce their carbon footprint.

But the potential for a squabble over money didn't dampen premiers' enthusiasm Monday for finally having a federal partner in the fight against climate change.

> **We have had a black eye for a long time on environmental issues and we have not deserved it.**
> B.C. Premier Christy Clark

Under former prime minister Stephen Harper, B.C.'s Clark said Canada tended to "talk about economic growth more than the environment on the international stage." She predicted Trudeau will do a good job in Paris of emphasizing the country's environmental stewardship.

"We're really lifting the curtain on Canada's success to show the world and we can only do that if we have a strong voice on the international stage. And that is a big change for us," she said.

Moreover, having Alberta, the primary oil-producing province, on side in the fight against climate change "is going to tell the world that we really are doing a lot," Clark added. "It's really going to make a difference."

Notley's plan includes imposition of a carbon tax and phasing out coal-fired power plants.

Quebec Premier Philippe Couillard said Paris presents an opportunity to "rebrand" Canada.

"Our country needs a serious effort in rebranding on this theme of climate change and energy," he said. "Not only are we an important producer of oil ... but we're also the third largest producer of hydroelectricity in the world."

With Alberta's new plan added to measures already taken to curb carbon emissions in B.C., Ontario and Quebec, Couillard added that almost 80 per cent of Canadians are now living in jurisdictions that have imposed a price on carbon.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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WRONGFUL CONVICTION

Representing yourself risky: Lawyer

The case of a man who was wrongfully imprisoned for nearly 30 years — after representing himself in court — should serve as a cautionary tale for people accused of crimes, says a lawyer for the government of British Columbia.

John Hunter told B.C. Supreme Court that Ivan Henry's case may have ended differently if the accused had accepted a publicly funded lawyer after he was arrested and charged with 10 counts of sexual assault in 1982.

"You can only do a certain amount when that unwise decision is made," Hunter said Monday.

"This is a case that demonstrates what can happen when a person accused of serious crimes refuses to accept the assistance of counsel."

Henry spent 27 years behind bars before he was acquitted in 2010.

He is now seeking damages for malicious prosecution and abuse of process over allegations that Crown lawyers did not disclose all the evidence in his case.

The City of Vancouver settled with Henry last week for an undisclosed amount and withdrew allegations that he was guilty despite the acquittal.

The provincial and federal governments continue to dispute the compensation claim.

Hunter told court that lawyers must prove that having the undisclosed evidence would have made a difference in Henry being convicted or acquitted.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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IMMIGRATION

The group that's 'left behind'

Gilbert Ngabo
Metro | Toronto

Some refugee advocates are concerned the plan to resettle 25,000 Syrian refugees could leave behind the most vulnerable.

Government is reportedly working on fast-tracking only women, children and families, excluding any single male applicants. Details of the plan are scheduled to be released Tuesday, but it is believed the new measures stem from security concerns.

It is the only way to proceed given the "rushed" deadline pending over the Justin Trudeau government, following his promise during the campaign, said Toronto immigration lawyer Guidy Mamann.

"Children, women and families are a much lower-risk demographic than young men," he said, adding most recent terrorist attacks were "typically" carried out by young, single men.

> **When you decide to do something fast, you're not going to do it well.**
> Toronto immigration lawyer Guidy Mamann

The issue, however, is that this selection could disqualify male refugees "just because they happen to be single," said Mamann, who has provided legal assistance to refugees from around the world for nearly 30 years.

"When you decide to do something fast, you're not going to do it well," he said, adding the project was initially ill-conceived and is prone to be ill-executed.

"I have no doubt there will be millions of Syrian refugees left behind who are better qualified than the 25,000 we're taking in."

Samir Mourani, executive director of RefugeAid, said such a plan would be understandable if it was just about prioritizing family applicants. To completely freeze out single males is "unfortunate," he said.

"They could be extremely vulnerable. Maybe they are on disability or they are being persecuted for the wrong reasons," he said.

"That's not something they chose. It's a result of the conflict. It really shouldn't be based on marital status."

Feds to screen all refugees before they come to Canada

RESETTLEMENT

Plan to use 'several layers of security' to ensure safety

The federal government will screen all 25,000 Syrian refugees for security concerns or health issues before they board planes for Canada, Torstar News Service has learned.

A government source said Monday that "100 per cent" of the screening will take place before refugees board charter and military aircraft to come to Canada in the coming weeks.

It ends speculation that portions of the screening process would be done on Canadian soil, after Public Safety Minister Ralph Goodale told reporters screening could take place both abroad and at home.

Furthermore, the Liberal government believes they can accomplish that screening while making good on their campaign promise to bring in 25,000 Syrian refugees by the end of the year.

And the most vulnerable groups — including women and children, families and LGBTQ populations — will get priority.

"Our priority has always been around addressing the most vulnerable people, and that's still the priority," Health Minister Jane Philpott, who leads the cabinet committee on the resettlement effort, said Monday afternoon.

> **We're looking for space. We're putting in place what we can to make sure that as people arrive, that there is accommodation.**
> Ontario Premier Kathleen Wynne

Ottawa also intends to launch a website encouraging Canadians to donate or volunteer to aid in the refugee resettlement, something Immigration and Refugees Minister John McCallum has called a "great national project."

On Tuesday, McCallum and Philpott will roll out the details of the resettlement plan.

McCallum briefed his provincial counterparts on the logistics of the plan on Monday, assuring them that the federal screening process was rigorous.

"He didn't get into the specifics other than to indicate there will be several layers of security that are accomplished even before they arrive in the country," Manitoba Premier Greg Selinger, in Ottawa for a First Ministers' Meeting, told reporters.

Saskatchewan Premier Brad Wall, who last week released an open letter urging Prime Minister Justin Trudeau to take more time to accomplish the goal, said most of his concerns have been addressed.

At the same time, the Department of National Defence has been busy making room for refugees at a number of bases, as well as winterizing facilities to house the refugees. It's not known which bases will host the refugees, although CFB Trenton in Ontario and CFB Valcartier in Quebec are likely candidates. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

At the Canadian Forces Base in Kingston, Ont., people are transforming several barracks that are intended to house Syrian refugees coming to Canada. THE CANADIAN PRESS

VACANCY

Newcomers won't threaten housing market: Experts

25,000 people may sound like a lot of bodies to house, but by the time the Syrian refugees settle in permanent housing, no one would even notice, say housing and settlement experts.

In Ontario, for example, — which is expecting 10,000 Syrians — roughly 2,500 housing units would be required considering most refugees will come as families and live under one roof, according to University of Toronto urban planning professor David Hulchanski.

"Ontario has about 1.3 million rental housing units. The refugees will be in temporary housing (in military bases) and we'll have housing counselors to help them," said Hulchanski, who specializes in housing, neighbourhood and community planning issues.

Many Canadians may be struggling to find affordable housing — and the social housing waiting list is long, but it doesn't mean the arriving refugees cannot be accommodated in Canada's housing market, where the vacancy rate has increased to 3.3 per cent from 2.8 per cent a year ago.

3.3%

The Canadian housing market vacancy rate, which has increased from 2.8 per cent in 2014.

In Toronto alone, there are some 500,000 rental units on top of the 140,000 units in the 905 regions — making up almost 30 per cent of the 1.3 million rental stock in Ontario, Hulchanski said.

"We have a vacancy rate of about 2 per cent. Housing may not be cheap and it may be difficult for everybody to find a good, quality place. But the impact will be small," said Hulchanski. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

DETAILS

How much space would 25,000 refugees fill?

The number doesn't seem too daunting when compared to the capacity of some well-known sports and entertainment venues.

- 54,000: Rogers Centre
- 24,000: Tim Hortons Field
- 19,800: Air Canada Centre

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Prosecutor Mark Holmes, right, looks on as **Gerald Donohue testifies via video** in an artist's sketch at the Mike Duffy trial in Ottawa, Monday. GREG BANNING/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Donohue questioned

DUFFY TRIAL

Former consultant testified via video link

Was Gerald Donohue an unqualified consultant who made roughly $20,000 for using Google, talking to Sen. Mike Duffy on the phone and cutting cheques to sub-contractors?

Or was the ailing Ottawa-area man a well-meaning, highly experienced former union and broadcasting executive who was executing legitimate Senate contracts?

Those are the two pictures emerging at Duffy's fraud, breach of trust and bribery trial, which has waited seven months to hear the details of the unusual Senate contracts with Donohue.

He suffers from failing kidneys, heart failure and diabetes and can testify for only a few hours a day, a few times a week, via video link.

This delayed his appearance several times over the course of the trial. Six of the 31 charges against Duffy are linked to $65,000 in Senate contracts awarded to Donohue between 2009 and 2012.

But there were a few very odd things about the contracts. For one, the money went to two companies owned by Donohue's wife — he was never an employee of the firms, nor did he ever have cheque signing authority.

More importantly for this trial, Donohue paid out tens of thousands of dollars to service providers who did work for Duffy — such as a makeup artist, speech writers and an intern.

Donohue testified that his company kept between $19,000 and $22,000 — he wasn't exactly sure of the amount. He said he did some research on the Internet on the aging population for Duffy and would give the senator his opinion on things like website content and the proper length of a speech. He never set foot on Parliament Hill.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

IN BRIEF

N.W.T. heads to the polls

Voters in the Northwest Territories head to the polls today for a general election.

Low commodity prices and unsettled land claims have hurt the resource-driven economy, while demands have been rising for social and infrastructure spending.

The N.W.T. and Nunavut Chamber of Mines have also expressed serious concerns about access to land, saying that 30 per cent of the territory is already closed to exploration.

Under the territory's consensus form of government, candidates run individually instead of under a party banner.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

YOGA CLASS

University distances itself from controversy

Haley Ritchie
Metro | Ottawa

A decision by the University of Ottawa's student association to cancel yoga classes because of "cultural appropriation" is sparking international debate.

The Ottawa Sun first reported on Friday that a free yoga class offered out of the Centre for Students with Disabilities at the university had been cancelled due to cultural concerns. Romeo Ahimakin, the student association's acting president, told the newspaper the program was on hold in order "to make it better, more accessible and more inclusive to certain groups of people that feel left out in yoga-like spaces."

The story was then discussed across Canadian media and later was picked up by the Daily Mail, Washington Post, People Magazine and Time magazine.

Jennifer Scharf, who taught the class, told the Washington Post she was unhappy with the decision to cancel the class.

"This particular class was 'intro to beginners' yoga,' because I'm very sensitive to this issue," Scharf told the newspaper.

"I would never want anyone to think I was making some sort of spiritual claim other than the pure joy of being human that belongs to everyone, free of religion."

On Monday, the University of Ottawa was quick to clarify that it was not responsible for the cancelled class.

The school's official Twitter account reminded the public that the student association is independent the school still offers free yoga classes on campus. "We offered it last year and it as a great success," said Isabelle Décarie, a programming officer at the university.

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Children stand behind a police barricade outside the Radisson Blu hotel in Bamako, Mali, Saturday, following a killing spree at the hotel Friday. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Mourning begins

MALI

Two terrorist groups claim responsibility

Mali began a three-day mourning period with flags flying at half-staff on Monday for victims of the assault on a luxury hotel full of foreigners, a day after a dueling claim of responsibility emerged.

The Islamic extremist group, Al-Mourabitoun, that first claimed responsibility for Friday's assault issued a new audio recording identifying the two gunmen, according to a Mauritanian news site that often receives messages from Malian extremists.

The group said the two were the only assailants in the attack that killed 19 people. Initial reports from witnesses and officials suggested there could have been as many as 10 gunmen. The bodies of only two gunmen were recovered from the scene.

The recording from the Al-Mourabitoun (Sentinels) group identified the gunmen as Abdel Hakim Al-Ansari and Moadh Al-Ansari, Al-Akhbar said in an article posted online Sunday. No nationalities were given, though the name "Al-Ansari" suggests they were both Malian.

Meanwhile, a different extremist group that emerged only this year also issued a claim of responsibility for the attack. The claim, reported Sunday by French media, underscores the shifting alliances and memberships of the extremist groups operating in Mali and nearby countries.

The new group, the Macina Liberation Front, is active in central Mali and said it had worked with yet another militant group, Ansar Dine. The claim said the attack was in retaliation for Operation Barkhane, the regional French fight against Islamic extremists, according to Radio France Internationale.

France's Defence Ministry on Monday provided new details of French support during the siege, describing in a statement how 40 French special forces arrived in Bamako at 3 p.m. and helped Malian forces move floor by floor.

On Monday morning, the national flag outside Prime Minister Modibo Keita's office was lowered to half-staff.

"We are aware that the country is in crisis and we must stand with the victims' families," said Makan Kone, a spokesman for Keita, adding the ceremony was "to show our pain for the death of 19 people." THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

BOKO HARAM

Female suicide bombers stopped at checkpoints

Female suicide bombers killed 12 people over the weekend in Nigeria and Cameroon, officials said Monday of the attackers who were stopped for routine searches. All five bombers also died, but they could have killed many more people.

Police who blamed Boko Haram said one girl detonated explosives strapped to her body Sunday evening at a military checkpoint guarding an entry to Nigeria's northeastern city of Maiduguri.

Police commissioner Aderemi Opadokun said the girl killed herself and seven other passengers who got off a bus to be searched. A dozen people were injured.

It was the first bomb in nearly a month in Maiduguri, the birthplace of Nigeria's homegrown Islamic extremists whose six-year-old insurgency has killed about 20,000 people and driven 2.3 million people from their homes.

Soldiers at all entries to Maiduguri make people get out of vehicles about 500 metres from their checkpoints and advance with hands raised above their heads.

In Cameroon, Communications Minister Issa Tchiroma Bakari said four teenage suicide bombers crossed into the country from Nigeria on Saturday and were approached by self-defence civilian fighters in the border town of Fotokol.

"When a member of a local vigilante committee made to stop them, one blew herself up, killing five members of a family," he said. "On hearing the explosion, soldiers fired into the air to frighten (any attackers). The three others panicked and detonated explosives tied round their bodies, but they only killed themselves."

The routine searches and checkpoints in place are believed to have prevented the suicide bombers from killing even more people. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Searches

Bombers have detonated explosives when stopped for searches that have become routine in parts of Nigeria and Cameroon **where suicide bombings have become near**-weekly tragedies.

LIBERIA

U.S scientists to probe new Ebola outbreak

Two experts from the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention are going to Liberia to determine the cause of new Ebola cases confirmed last week, two months after the country was declared free of Ebola transmission for a second time, a Liberian health official said Monday.

Liberia requested U.S. assistance after three new cases were reported on Friday, said Dr. Francis Kateh, the country's chief medical officer and acting head of Liberia's Ebola Case Management System. One case is a 15-year-old boy from Monrovia, who officials initially said was 10 but now say is 15. The boy's father and brother also have tested positive and have been taken to the same treatment centre along with his mother and two siblings.

More than 150 people have been identified as potentially at risk of contracting the disease in connection with the new cluster of cases. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

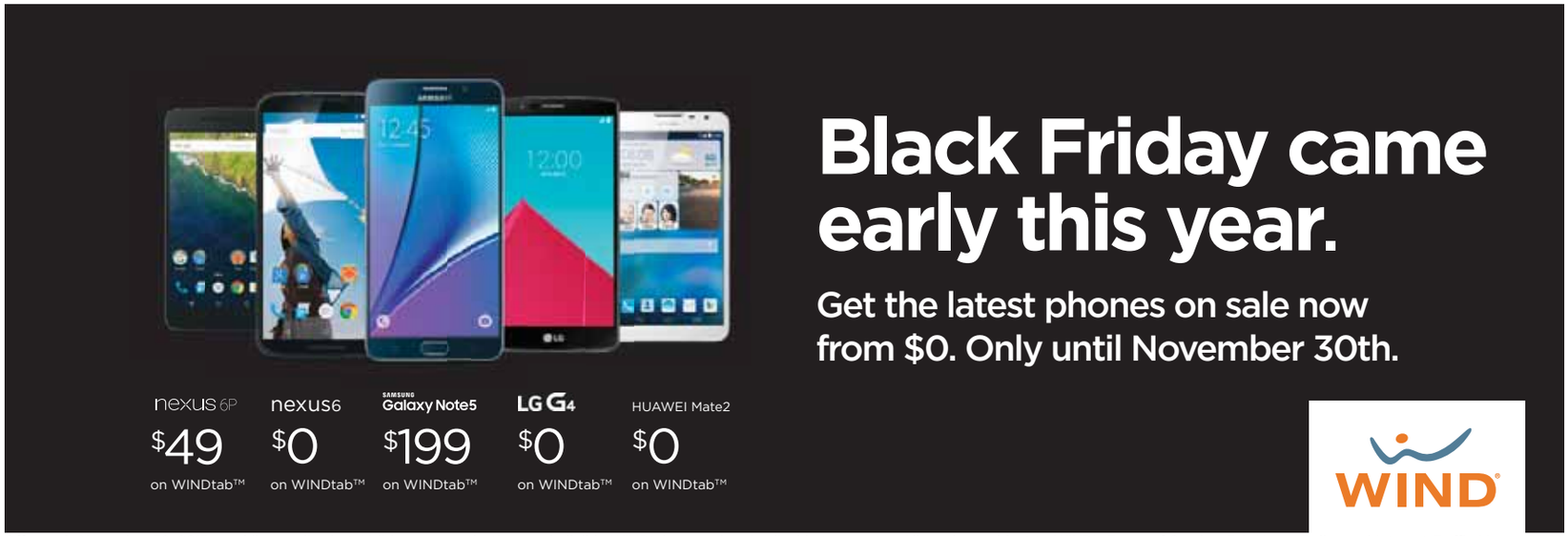
UNITED STATES

Lawyers launch $15M suit

Attorneys for Ahmed Mohamed, the 14-year-old Muslim boy arrested after taking a homemade clock to his Texas school say he was publicly mistreated and deserves $15 million — $10 million from the city of Irving and $5 million from the Irving Independent School District.

Ahmed took his clock to school in September, and an educator thought it could be a bomb. Ahmed was arrested but never charged. He was also suspended from school. Messages left for Irving's city attorney and the district weren't returned Monday. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Ahmed Mohamed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LOCKDOWN

Web users get frisky with Belgian police

What police force would start playing along with a practical joke when the capital is facing its highest state of alert and its most-wanted fugitive is still on the run? Right! This is surreal Belgium.

Late Sunday, police asked people to stop commenting on ongoing raids in social media to avoid tipping off suspects.

En masse, they did more than that, becoming mischievous within minutes.

The hashtag #BrusselsLockdown suddenly shifted from serious to humorous, tweeting a flood of pictures of all-too-innocent cats in all kinds of situations — holding their paws up as if captured, posing as police snipers with automatic weapons, and ignoring police warnings to stay away from windows.

Within hours, federal prosecutor Eric Van Der Syp said police wanted to thank "social media users because they took the need of this operation into account."

Police joined the party on Monday, posting a picture of a dish overflowing with dry cat food labelled "For the cats that came to our aid last evening. Serve yourself! #BrusselsLockdown." THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Belgian police posted a bowl of cat food to their Twitter account. AFP/GETTY IMAGES

IN BRIEF

U.S. attacks 283 ISIL oil trucks over weekend

Accelerating its attacks on one of the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant's most important sources of income, the U.S. military said Monday it destroyed 283 tanker trucks used by the militants to transport oil from producing fields in eastern Syria to smuggling points.

The attack by four A-10 attack planes and two AC-130 gunships was carried out Saturday at a site near Deir el-Zour and al-Hasakah but not reported until Monday. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Putin visits Iran to discuss international peace plan

Russia's President Vladimir Putin visited Tehran for talks with Iranian leaders that focused on the Syrian crisis and an international peace plan. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Clarification regarding female-bombers story

The file photo of students in Tehran published with a story about female suicide bombers in Metro's weekend edition was taken in 2006. The published caption contained incomplete information.

Street cleaner finds bomb vest in rubble

Paris

Device likely defective, not tossed out of doubt: Expert

A street cleaner in a Paris suburb found an explosive vest on Monday near the place where a suspect's mobile phone had been found, raising the possibility that he aborted his mission, either ditching a malfunctioning vest — or fleeing in fear.

The discovery of the vest came as Belgium's prime minister cited a "serious and imminent" threat justifying keeping the highest alert level operational for at least another week. The security measures, already in place for three days, have severely disrupted normal life in the capital.

In France, police said the explosive vest was found — without a detonator — in a pile of rubble in Chatillon-Montrouge, on the southern edge of Paris and a considerable distance from the sites of the attacks on the Right Bank of the Seine to the north. A police official later said the vest contained bolts and the same type of explosives as those used in the Nov. 13 Paris attacks that claimed 130 lives and left hundreds wounded.

The device was found Monday in the same area where a cellphone belonging to fugitive suspect Salah Abdeslam was located on the day of the Paris attacks, but the vest has not been formally linked to him, said two police officials who spoke on condition of anonymity.

Belgium-based terrorism expert Claude Moniquet, who has been in contact with both Belgian and French investigators since the attacks, laid out two possibilities: that Abdeslam became afraid of carrying out a suicide mission or, more likely he says, that he simply ditched a defective explosive vest.

Nervousness could have played a role in concocting a defective vest, but he said he doubted fear played a role. Among followers of the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (ISIL), "it is rare not to go to the end."

Moniquet said this was only theory since he had not yet spoken to investigators about the explosive vest.

A manhunt is underway for Abdeslam, whose brother Brahim was among attackers who blew themselves up. He crossed the border into Belgium after the attacks, with French police stopping and interviewing him, before letting him go.

Belgian Prime Minister Charles Michel said Brussels, which houses the headquarters of the European Union and NATO, faced a "serious and imminent" threat that requires keeping the city at the highest alert level, while the rest of the country would stay at the second-highest level. Belgium's crisis centre said the alert level would only change if a significant breakthrough warranted it.

The increased security measures in the wake of the massacre in Paris have virtually shut down the Belgian capital, with the subway system, many shops and schools remaining shut on Monday. Michel said that despite the continued high-alert level, schools would reopen Wednesday, with parts of the subway system beginning to operate.

"We are very alert and call for caution," Michel said. "The potential targets remain the same: shopping centres and shopping streets and public transport." THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

French soldiers patrol on Monday in front of the Eiffel Tower, lit in the colours of the nation's flag in tribute to the victims of the Nov. 13 attacks on the capital. LUDOVIC MARIN/AFP/GETTY IMAGES

> **We want to return to a normal way of life as quickly as possible.**
> Belgian Prime Minister Charles Michel

TERROR THREAT

United States issues travel alert

Americans should be alert to possible travel risks, especially during the holidays, following increased terrorist threats around the world, the State Department warned on Monday.

A travel alert, which is to be in effect until Feb. 24, said current information suggests that militants with the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (ISIL), al-Qaida, Boko Haram and other terrorist groups continue to plan attacks in multiple regions.

U.S. authorities said the likelihood of terror attacks will continue as members of ISIL return from Syria and Iraq, and other individuals not affiliated with terror groups engage in violence on their own.

Extremists have targeted sporting events, theatres, open markets and aviation targets. In the past year, there have been multiple attacks in France, Nigeria, Denmark, Lebanon, Turkey and Mali. ISIL has claimed responsibility for the Oct. 31 bombing of a Russian airliner in Egypt, killing 224 people.

"U.S. citizens should exercise vigilance when in public places or using transportation," the alert said. "Be aware of immediate surroundings and avoid large crowds or crowded places. Exercise particular caution during the holiday season and at holiday festivals or events." THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

INTELLIGENCE

The State Department said the U.S. is exchanging information with allies about threats of international terrorism.

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Landslide shines spotlight on jade

MYANMAR

Mine tragedy turns focus on gem industry after 113 killed

Soldiers, police and volunteers pulled body after body from the rubble Monday, as the death toll from a landslide near several jade mines in northern Myanmar reached at least 113, a local official said. More than 100 others were missing.

The collapse early Saturday in Kachin state was the worst-such disaster in recent memory.

The corpses were taken to a morgue, where friends and relatives broke down as they identified the victims. Some were buried at a cemetery and others were cremated. But there were stacks of unidentified bodies wrapped in blue plastic tarps.

Kachin is home to some of the world's highest-quality jade, and the industry generated an estimated $31 billion last year, with most of the wealth going to individuals and companies tied to Myanmar's former military rulers, according to Global Witness, a group that investigates misuse of resource revenues.

The accident occurred at a 60-metre-high mountain of earth and waste discarded by several mines. Earlier, officials said the dead were mostly men who were picking through the waste and tailings in search of pieces of jade to sell. But officials said Monday the accident occurred at about 3 a.m., burying more than 70 makeshift huts where the miners slept.

"It's not ending. It's still ongoing. Local people in town are getting angry because there are just too many bodies," said Nilar Myint, a township administrator.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Excavators dig dump soil to search for bodies of miners as workers and rescue members gather Sunday in Hpakant, Myanmar. ELEVEN MEDIA GROUP/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

BURUNDI

Obama decides on tough sanctions

U.S. President Barack Obama is imposing sanctions against individuals in Burundi the U.S. says are contributing to violence in the African nation.

Among those targeted by the asset freeze and visa restrictions are Burundi's minister of public security and a leader of the country's national police.

Burundi has been racked by violence since April when President Pierre Nkurunziza announced he would seek a third term, sparking violent street clashes and a failed coup attempt. According to the United Nations, at least 240 people have been killed since the violence broke out.

240

According to the UN, 240 people have been killed since fighting broke out in Burundi.

The White House says Burundi is "on the precipice" and called on all sides to reject violence and reach a political solution to the current crisis.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

PHILIPPINES

Police continue massive manhunt after convictions

Philippine police and military officials said Monday they were pressing on with a manhunt for about 30 kidnapping suspects after three Muslim militants were convicted of the 2011 abductions of an American woman, her teenage son and a Filipino relative vacationing in the country's south. A regional court convicted the three Abu Sayyaf militants last week and sentenced them to life in prison for the July 12, 2011, kidnappings of Gerfa Lunsmann, her son Kevin and her Filipino relative Romnick Jakaria from a cottage off Zamboanga city.

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U.S.

Playground shootout leaves New Orleans police puzzled

Authorities are still trying to determine what touched off a shootout between two groups of gunmen that wounded 17 people in a crowded New Orleans park, a police spokesman said Monday.

The mayor called on witnesses to come forward, but by late Monday morning nobody had offered either video of the shootout or descriptions or IDs of the gunmen, officer Frank Robertson said. None of the injuries are believed to be life-threatening. Robertson did not know how many people were hospitalized or any details such as their ages.

Hundreds of people were gathered Sunday evening at Bunny Friend Playground — most for a block party and some for the filming of a music video — when two groups in the crowd opened fire on each other, police said.

Police were on their way to break up a big crowd there when gunfire erupted at the park in the city's 9th Ward, the police said in a statement.

Mayor Mitch Landrieu called on people who were in the park to come forward with information. "At the end of the day, it's really hard to police against a bunch of guys who decide to pull out guns and settle their disputes with 300 people in between them. That's just not something you can tolerate in the city," Landrieu said.

"It's going to require the people who were in this park to basically say they've had enough and they're not going to put themselves in harm's way and give us information so that the police can do their job," the mayor said.

Officials remove a man following the shooting in New Orleans' 9th Ward Sunday. MICHAEL DEMOCKER/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

10

Number of people taken to hospital in ambulances following the incident.

Ten people were taken to hospital in ambulances, and others went in private vehicles, police said. Large stadium lights lit up the park Sunday as police continued to analyze the crime scene. As many as 500 people could have been in the park when the shooting happened.

Police spokesman Tyler Gamble said Sunday that neither the block party nor the music video crew had a permit to use the playground.

Harrison told WDSU-TV that the shooting might have been gang-related. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Nestle admits its workers are abused

SEAFOOD SUPPLIERS

Company vows to pursue solutions aggressively

Impoverished migrant workers in Thailand are sold or lured by false promises and forced to catch and process fish that ends up in global food giant Nestle SA's supply chains.

The unusual disclosure comes from Geneva-based Nestle SA itself, which in an act of self-policing planned to announce the conclusions of its year-long internal investigation on Monday.

The study found virtually all U.S. and European companies buying seafood from Thailand are exposed to the same risks of abuse in their supply chains.

Nestle SA, among the biggest food companies in the world, launched the investigation in December 2014, after reports from news outlets and non-government organizations tied brutal and largely unregulated working conditions to their shrimp, prawns and Purina brand pet foods.

Nestle is not a major purchaser of seafood in Southeast Asia but does some business in Thailand, primarily for its Purina brand Fancy Feast cat food. JOHN RAOUX/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

The labourers come from Thailand's poorer neighbours Myanmar and Cambodia. Brokers illegally charge them fees to get jobs, trapping them into working on fishing vessels and at ports, mills and seafood farms in Thailand to pay back more money than they can ever earn.

"Sometimes, the net is too heavy and workers get pulled into the water and just disappear. When someone dies, he gets thrown into the water," one Burmese worker told the non-profit organization Verite commissioned by Nestle.

"I have been working on this boat for 10 years. I have no savings. I am barely surviving," said another.

Nestle said it would post the reports online — as well as a detailed year-long solution strategy throughout 2016 — as part of ongoing efforts to protect workers. It has promised to impose new requirements on all potential suppliers and train boat owners and captains about human rights, possibly with a demonstration vessel and rewards for altering their practices. It also plans to bring in outside auditors and assign a high-level Nestle manager to make sure change is underway.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

TAXATION

Pfizer and Allergan deal sparks outcry

A $160-billion deal announced Monday to merge Pfizer and Allergan and create the world's biggest drug company renewed the outcry in Washington over "inversions," in which U.S. corporations combine with companies overseas to lower their tax bill.

The combination — the second-largest merger in history — could have ramifications around the globe, pushing up drug prices and spurring more such deals in the fast-consolidating health-care sector and other fields.

It is also increasing the election-year backlash from U.S. politicians who have been blasting drugmakers recently over medicine prices that can exceed $100,000 a year.

In what would be the biggest inversion ever, New York-based Pfizer could save hundreds of millions in U.S. taxes annually because it would move its tax headquarters to Ireland, where Allergan is based. That would enable Pfizer to slash its tax rate from around 25 per cent this year to about 18 per cent.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

AUTO

Ford recalls midsize cars

Ford is recalling nearly 452,000 midsize cars in the U.S., Canada and Mexico because the gas tanks potentially can leak fuel.

The recall covers certain 2010 to 2011 Ford Fusion and Mercury Milan sedans built in Mexico from July 21, 2008, through March 4, 2011.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

market minute

DOLLAR 74.78¢ (-0.15¢)

TSX 13,382.38 (-51.11)

OIL $41.75 US (-0.15¢)

GOLD $1,066.80 US (-$9.50)

NATURAL GAS: $2.343 US (+5.2¢)
DOW JONES: 17,792.68 (-31.13)

BUNCHEMS

Parents rail against toy that gets tangled in their kids' hair

Bunchems, a nominee for activity toy of the year in the 2016 Toy of the Year Awards. WWW.TARGET.COM

They're a popular toy for kids, but some parents are seeing red over Bunchems, a toy many say is getting tangled in their children's hair.

Bunchems are colourful balls that can be stuck together to build pets, bugs and other creations.

"A Toy Spawned From the Darkest Depths of Hell" is how one father described the toy in a scathing Amazon review, after he said he spent two hours trying to remove them from his daughter's hair.

"Buy this toy for someone if you hate them or their child," Ethan Benoit wrote on Sept. 6. "They bring pain and misery, tears, fighting, broken and ripped hair, and questions of one's sanity in handling life in general."

Arlene Biran, vice-president of marketing at Spin Master, the company behind Bunchems, said Bunchems are only intended to be linked to other Bunchems.

"The Bunchems packaging and directions clearly state: 'Caution: Keep away from hair. May become entangled.' We recently changed the colour of the warning to make it even more identifiable when opening the packaging."

Bunchems are recommended for children aged 4 to 9.

After hearing about the hair tangles, Spin Master released a video on YouTube at youtu.be/S41FjIpPJTo on how to remove them from hair. The company's instructional video says vegetable oil and conditioner are your best bets to get them out.

But the company's suggested fix hasn't worked for everyone.

"This didn't work and had to cut a client's beautiful hair. Bad product!!" one YouTube user commented on the video.

"Conditioner and oil only made it worse," another said.

Not everyone is blaming the company for the problem, though.

"Are you that inattentive of a parent that 5+ of these balls are getting stuck in your kid's hair? Is this really the manufacturer's fault? No, it's a parenting fail," L. wrote in an Amazon review.

"There's plenty of warning about Bunchems and hair. We've had them for two months now and that's never been an issue, even when we've had play dates it wasn't an issue. Overall, I hate to see them getting a bad rap because they really are fun, not messy, encourage creativity and keep my child engaged," another parent wrote.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

RETAIL

Amazon fuels delivery rivalry

Everyone likes the idea of same-day delivery. But who wants to pay for it?

That's the problem merchants face as the busy holiday shopping season approaches. They want to offer customers the near-instant gratification that usually only comes with shopping in stores or via apps like Uber and Seamless. But the logistics and costs of same-day delivery — the fuel, labour, and other costs — has been a difficult challenge to surmount.

This year, Amazon has been making an aggressive push to offer same-day delivery to people who've paid its $99 fee for Prime loyalty club membership. That service is now available in 23 metro areas in the U.S. And where Amazon goes, other retailers must follow.

"Over the past 18 to 24 months Amazon has been pushing the bar" for fast and cheap delivery, said Daphne Carmeli, CEO of Deliv, a startup that works with retailers to provide same-day delivery. "If you're in retail, you have to step up to the new bar."

Amazon, of course, doesn't have to pay for the cost of store upkeep, not counting its new bookstore in Seattle. And it makes money from other non-retail areas, such as its cloud computing arm, so it can afford to offer delivery services others can't.

"Retailers trying to compete with Amazon on the road Amazon created will always be at a disadvantage," said shipping industry expert Satish Jindel. "There's only so long they can absorb the cost, it's a huge challenge for retailers."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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metro VIEWS
Your essential daily news
Tuesday, November 24, 2015

EMMA TEITEL: ON THE PARIS CLIMATE TALKS

Whether our government changes its policies in any meaningful way regarding the oilsands or any other environmental issue, how much does policy matter in combatting climate change if people, by and large, do not give a damn?

On Monday, Trudeau met with Canadian premiers to discuss a problem most people (myself included) either ignore completely or lament for 30 seconds before changing the subject to more current, pressing matters.

That problem is climate change, the alleged End of Days brought to you by selfish, insatiable mankind. Trudeau will attend the climate change conference in Paris next week, but before he sets off, he'd like to showcase Canada's newfound environmental fervour to the wider world.

Of course not much has changed in the short time the PM has been in office; for now the Liberal government will pursue the same emission reduction targets proposed by the Conservatives under Stephen Harper. However, Trudeau has promised another climate change meeting with premiers 90 days after the Paris talks, at which more robust goals may be set. After all, Trudeau renamed the Ministry of the Environment the Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change, which many maintain was a deliberate and powerful attempt at battling climate change denial.

Minister Catherine McKenna wants incentives — and disincentives — for climate change plans. And yet, whether next week's Paris talks and subsequent meetings with premiers are fruitful — whether in fact, our government changes its policies in any meaningful way regarding the oilsands or any other issue pertaining to the environment — one has to ask: How much does policy matter in combatting climate change, if people by and large do not give a damn about it?

NOT SCARY We need a bit more fear-mongering about climate change, or ambitious targets to cut emissions will lapse as badly as people with grand plans to use a green bin, Emma Teitel writes. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Some advice for Trudeau's new Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change: Less Inconvenient Truth, more Day After Tomorrow.

Unless you are a self-avowed environmentalist, chances are you do not think at length about melting ice caps and sinking cities worlds away. This doesn't mean you don't think these things are important; it means, much worse, that they don't scare you.

In fact, just over half of Canadians believe climate change is man-made — which is to say just over half believe we can do something to curtail it. And there's a big difference between declaring belief in a problem and changing your lifestyle or voting habits to curb that problem.

It's interesting that despite 32 years in politics and a charismatic high-profile leader, the Green Party has not inspired significant interest from the general public. Before the federal election, the National Post editorial board argued that the Greens' inability to "catch fire may lie more in public doubts about their policies or fitness to govern than any unfairness in the system." (Party leader Elizabeth May argues the Greens are routinely shafted by the country's electoral process).

There may be some truth to this theory, but isn't it far more likely that Canadians do not pay much attention to the Greens or the governing party's climate change plans because we perceive climate change as a far, faraway problem, scary only if you are in possession of impeccable foresight? It could be argued that the Green Party is a lot like the green bin: You know should give it a try, but you never get around to it.

The exceedingly lame climate-change joke — "Where is global warming when you need it?"— is all the rage on a sub-zero winter's day in Canada. And though it is just a joke told by many well-informed Canadians who would never question the veracity of climate change, there is a kernel of heartfelt resignation at its core. When your knuckles are dryer than the Sahara because it is freaking freezing outside and you've got a hundred and one things to do before dinner, you will not prioritize a global problem with no definitive solution that will affect you either in old age, or (better yet) in the grave. This isn't human avarice; it is human nature.

Which is why I'd wager that the only way world leaders and activists can change human perception of climate change, in addition to public policy, is through a healthy dose of fear-mongering. In fact, political fear-mongering, a tactic used in this country to prejudice us against a small minority of niqab-clad women, is actually prudent in the fight against climate change, a material threat that, unlike the others mentioned, will wreak havoc in our land.

Yet public rhetoric and activism around the issue seems to always appeal to the alleged nature lovers in us. Save the polar bears; preserve Canada's beauty; reduce, reuse, recycle. Some advice for Trudeau's new Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change? Alter your tone: less Inconvenient Truth, more Day After Tomorrow; less "Kumbaya," more FernGully: The Last Rainforest.

Scare us and scare us good, because if people can't find time to care about the fate of Mother Nature, they will always find time to care about their own.

Emma Teitel is a national columnist for the Toronto Star. She has been a front-of-the-book columnist for Maclean's magazine for the past four years, focusing on a wide range of subjects including women's issues and popular culture. She won the National Magazine Awards gold award for columns in 2013.

YOUR RIDE

A pricey Massey Tunnel bridge won't clear up congestion

YOUR RIDE
Karen Quinn Fung

Work smarter, not harder. We praise our leaders in government and business for thinking differently about what affects us — and not turning a blind eye when we learn new things about what we've already been doing.

Unfortunately, when it comes to thinking about the Massey Tunnel replacement bridge project, being thoughtful has been pushed aside in favour of simply thinking bigger — at our collective expense. Earlier this month, Minister of Transportation Todd Stone explained the delay on the expected report on the replacement bridge's business case by chalking it up to the project's complexity. Soil conditions on the Fraser River mean the bridge will end up even larger than the Port Mann bridge — itself already the second longest cable-stayed bridge in North America and, briefly, the widest in the world.

But this shouldn't have come to us as a surprise. As Nathan Pachal pointed out on the South Fraser Blog last week, in the 1950s we faced these same trade-offs and costs at the time of the original decision to build the Massey Tunnel. It was recognized that a tunnel was more cost-effective than a bridge then, and those same conditions are still posing a challenge for those of us hoping a bridge will solve our congestion woes.

Are the doubters just part of the "build nothing" party, as the Liberals accused Delta MLA Vicki Huntington of in legislature? Even if she was (which, her statements demonstrate, she's not), she'd be in good company among those who've done a lot of digging into what building smarter for transportation actually means.

Many researchers have long doubted that building more lanes actually reduces congestion. Even California Department of Transportation, that cradle of car culture in North America, is copping to the fact that congestion doesn't go down the way we hope it does. Buying a bridge means pushing our congestion problem ten years down the line.

The Corporation of Delta has stated that a new crossing is needed. But does the magnitude of the problem warrant buying the priciest option — and working harder to pay for it, instead of working smarter to make better use of our future tax dollars?

The early days of our new federal government have buoyed a feeling of optimism around a return to well-reasoned decision-making. It reminds us what true leadership is — not presenting choices as inevitable, but using everyone's perspectives to give us real alternatives. On this issue, it appears we're still waiting.

Karen Quinn Fung writes on sustainable transportation issues and policy. Find her @counti8 on Twitter.

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metro LIFE
Your essential daily news

Over 600 babies in Japan wriggled to the finish line in the world's largest crawling contest on Monday

Strategize your holiday eating

HEALTH

Fight excess through moderation, mindfulness

Devon Scoble
For Metro

It's January 1st and you're hungover, bloated, and one cookie away from total self-loathing; you'd be lost if not for those resolutions you're definitely starting tomorrow.

If that sounds familiar, then "why not fix it before you break it?" and start your New Year's resolutions today, asks The UnDiet Cookbook author Meghan Telpner.

"It might not be 100 per cent, but you're exploring your options so that when the holidays come you already have a sense of moderation."

Thinking about New Year's eating resolutions? Why not start early and approach the holidays with more moderation? ISTOCK

Home is where the heart and hips are healthiest

A November 2014 study published in Public Health Nutrition found that people who frequently cook at home "consume fewer carbohydrates, less sugar and less fat than those who cook less or not at all. "

While you're at it, Telpner suggests batch-cooking healthy soups, stews and sauces.

Stock your freezer so you can alternate future festive fare with wholesome home cooking.

Flavours worth savouring

Multiple studies show that mindful eating — paying attention to the experience of dining — helps reduce caloric intake.

"If we help ourselves to a delicious sweet, we should really appreciate its colour, its shape, and the time and energy that went into making it," says naturopathic doctor Leslie Solomonian. Follow this approach and you'll not only eat less — you'll enjoy more.

Healthful holiday mind games

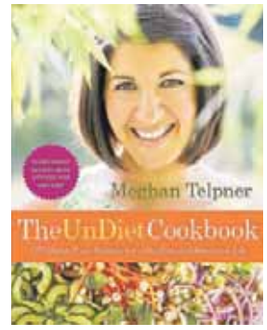
Many of us of alleviate stress by consuming, says Solomonian, especially around the holidays.

Each time you reach for a treat, she suggests asking yourself "what is it that I'm thinking or feeling now? Am I genuinely hungry or am I feeling bored? Or angry? Or worried?"

Practice now before the emotional intensity of the season ramps up.

"It's not just about diet and exercise," reminds Telpner, "but also the mind."

Seeking moments of quiet, or exercising — which benefits body and mind — will also help you manage temptations and frustrations.



It is not just about diet and exercise, but also the mind.
The UnDiet Cookbook author Meghan Telpner

Kindness is key

Compassion is essential to breaking the cycle of excess and denial, says Solomonian, and can be practiced in many ways. Focusing on positive behaviours — eating more vegetables, enjoying more outdoor exercise — is more satisfying than simply eliminating "bad" habits.

Occasional overindulgence isn't the worst thing either, so don't beat yourself up if you do go overboard. Just down a big glass of water and remember that a balanced life is the gift that keeps giving.

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5 OFFBEAT WORKOUTS TO KEEP YOU MOVING ALL WINTER

Baby, it's cold outside! While the weather is frightful these five fitness trends are delightful. Metro has rounded up some indoor workout options to keep your blood pumping this winter. From swimming and scrambling, to "serving all this, swerve, surfing all in this good, good" like Beyoncé sings. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE/METRO

1 Mermaid madness

Slipping into a mermaid suit and swimming across a pool might sound like something out of a fairy tale, but some consider it serious fitness. Halifax, Ottawa, Toronto, Winnipeg, Calgary, Vancouver are all home to their very own mermaid swimming school where patrons who are willing to shell out the cash can get an aquatic workout.

2 Indoor obstacle courses

At some point, as you slog your way through thigh-deep mud, scramble under barbed wire or try to scale a very high wall you might stop and wonder just where your fitness plan got so off track. Obstacle courses like Tough Mudder have taken off in recent years and Toronto's 10,000 square-foot indoor training centre Pursuit OCR now offers year-round access to a course.

3 Being Beyoncé

If booty popping and sassy walking is more your speed, Toronto-based actor and drama instructor Nicky Nasrallah teaches classes featuring Beyoncé's dance routines so everyone can learn how to run this world like Queen Bey.

4 Footloose and fancy free

If all else fails and there's always Prancersise, a musical combination of prancing and ankle weights. If you're having trouble visualizing what a rhythmic horse's gait might look like, check out John Mayer's music video for his 2013 single Paper Dolls, which features Prancersise's creator Joanna Rohrback showing off "a prance to romance to."

5 Workout wave of the future

Surfset Toronto provides a form of fitness that's totally radical. For those looking to hang 10 — or just lose 10 pounds — the gym offers lessons atop moving surfboards that recreate the feel and challenge of surfing.

NEUROGASTRONOMY

How the brain adds flavour to foods

Neurogastronomy is a relatively new phenomenon in the worlds of neurology and culinary expertise. It seeks to understand taste preferences and how the experience of eating could be modified by factors other than taste and smell.

Neuroscientists at the University of Kentucky in the U.S. and a number of renowned chefs have undertaken an experiment to see how patients with taste impairments could recapture the joy of food. They announced their conclusions at a symposium organized by the International Society of Neurogastronomy which was held in Lexington earlier this month.

During this event, participants could visit eight tasting stations which demonstrated how our perception of flavours is not just influenced by the palate and the tongue. The participants covered their eyes and nose, sniffed scent jars, and at one station even ate pink cookies while listening to music, discovering that the taste was the same as the black cookies accompanied by harsh music.

BRAIN FOOD

The brain uses all the senses to perceive flavour. Researchers are interested in modifying the eating experience by taking all of them into account.

The aim was to explore the possibilities of improving the quality of life for patients who had lost their sense of taste or smell as a result of chemotherapy, brain lesions, a stroke, or neurological diseases like Alzheimer's and Parkinson's. teams of neuroscientists, chefs and cancer patients competed with each other to make food that would appeal to the taste-impaired by mixing sweet, salty, mild and tart flavours.

The brain uses all the senses to perceive flavour and it influences our dietary decisions. And some chefs are toying with perception.

For example, a few years ago a Japanese dish was served at The Fat Duck, the restaurant headed by the Michelin-starred chef Heston Blumenthal, with the lapping of waves and the cry of seagulls played on an iPod as background music. AFP

Vegan from scratch

DIY VEGAN

Cookbook shares tips on creating plant-based staples

Nicole Axworthy and Lisa Pitman grew tired of scrutinizing food labels to ensure products adhered to their vegan diets.

They decided the only sure bet was to steer away from the store and towards the kitchen to customize their own homemade plant-based cuisine.

"I think one of the biggest things that we see in the food industry is the overabundance of processed foods and fast foods," said Axworthy.

"We really wanted to break it down and make it simple for people. And show people that it's easy, that you can still enjoy nachos and mac and cheese and cereals and all those things with basic ingredients."

The Toronto-based pair feature 135 recipes for everyday food staples free of animal byproducts in their new cookbook DIY Vegan (St. Martin's Griffin).

The cookbook offers a comprehensive breakdown of vegan pantry essentials including natural sweeteners; oils and fats; nuts; dried fruits; vinegars; oats, quinoa and millet; and flours derived from almond, buckwheat or chickpeas.

Once the pantry is stocked, readers can start off with the basics such as making their own dairy-free milks and cheeses, broadening into breads, dressings, sauces, seasonings and condiments, and rounded out by comfort foods like mac and cheese, pizza and desserts.

> **Side dishes (are) really where it's at.**
> DIY Vegan co-author Nicole Axworthy, says wof cooking for vegan guests.

While it may seem daunting to create such food essentials from scratch, Axworthy said what's key is making the process routine, such as soaking cashews prior to bed to make dairy-free milk first thing in the morning.

With the holiday season coming up, some individuals hosting dinners may be unsure of what to prepare for vegan guests.

Axworthy said as a vegan, she finds "side dishes (are) really where it's at."

"They can be especially nutritious and filling if they're made with whole grains and vegetables and greens and beans," she said.

"One thing that the host can do is just make some easy substitutions. For example, replacing the butter for vegetable-based oils, or putting the cheese on the side for people who want it ... or replacing the chicken broth with vegetable broth."

Cashew-based cheeses teamed with crackers would be "an awesome holiday appetizer," Axworthy added.

As for sweet treats, Axworthy said there are substitutions that can be made for ingredients that are central in many baked goods.

For example, a mixture of flax seed and water replaces egg, and cold coconut oil can add a flaky texture to a premade pie crust. THE CANADIAN PRESS

SAY VEGAN! Cashew-based cheeses teamed with crackers would be "an awesome holiday appetizer."

Clockwise from bottom left: Date and Fig Cashew Cheese, Spicy Jalapeno Cheese, Cultured Nut Cheese and Cheddar Cheese. HANDOUT/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Rose Reisman EAT THIS

You know you're going to eat fast, so next time choose this not that

THIS WEEK: Olivieri Pasta Sauces

The sauce you pour over your pasta makes the meal. While most of us don't always have the time for homemade sauce, there are fresh store-bought options that even the most traditional Italian grandmother will approve of! Olivieri sauces are made without artificial ingredients or colours and are found in the refrigerated section of your grocery store. They can be microwaved and leftovers can be frozen. Fettucine Alfredo sauce might seem like the option to skip, due to the creamy texture, but take another look:

PICK THIS

Olivieri Classic Alfredo Sauce (1/2 cup)

Calories 160
Fat 13g
Saturated fats 8g
Sodium 450mg

SKIP THIS

Olivieri Basil & Cheese Pesto (1/3 cup)

Calories 540
Fat 54g
Saturated fats 10.5g
Sodium 1080mg

HERE'S WHY

Equivalent — contains as much fat as 5 McCain Deluxe Pizza Pockets

Pesto may seem like a lighter option than a creamy Alfredo, but the main ingredients are oil and cheese, which accounts for the excess calories, fat and saturated fat. While pesto should be used more sparingly than a traditional sauce like Alfredo, we often add way more pesto then necessary. Though oil is heart healthy, it's not hip healthy! So enjoy the creamier sauce this time around and keep the pesto for adding a dollop over your foods.

NEUROGASTRONOMY

How the brain adds flavour

BRAIN FOOD The brain uses all the senses to perceive flavour. Researchers are interested in modifying the eating experience by taking all of them into account.

Neurogastronomy is a relatively new phenomenon in the worlds of neurology and culinary expertise. It seeks to understand taste preferences and how the experience of eating could be modified by factors other than taste and smell.

Neuroscientists at the University of Kentucky in the U.S. and a number of renowned chefs have undertaken an experiment to see how patients with taste impairments could recapture the joy of food. They announced their conclusions at a symposium organized by the International Society of Neurogastronomy which was held in Lexington earlier this month.

During this event, participants could visit eight tasting stations which demonstrated how our perception of flavours is not just influenced by the palate and the tongue. The participants covered their eyes and nose, sniffed scent jars, and at ate while listening to different genres of music.

The aim was to explore the possibilities of improving the quality of life for patients who had lost their sense of taste or smell as a result of chemotherapy, brain lesions, a stroke, or neurological diseases like Alzheimer's and Parkinson's. And teams of neuroscientists, chefs and cancer patients competed with each other to make food that would appeal to the taste-impaired. AFP

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JOHANNA SCHNELLER **WHAT I'M WATCHING**

Afterlife bad news for The Leftovers

THE LEFTOVERS, SEASON TWO, EPISODE EIGHT (HBO)

Kevin Garvey (Justin Theroux) wakes up in a bathtub and slithers out, naked and choking.

Because he died at the end of episode seven, we know this must be, if not the afterlife, an afterlife. (If you haven't watched The Leftovers, put this down and go watch.)

For we devotees, this is a Significant Moment. It means that Kevin survives, which is good news. But it also means that, in the universe of this show, there's an afterlife.

To me that's bad news. Until now, there's always been one big mystery with no solution — one October day, many people on earth suddenly disappeared — plus countless little mysteries that those left behind have created in reaction to the big one.

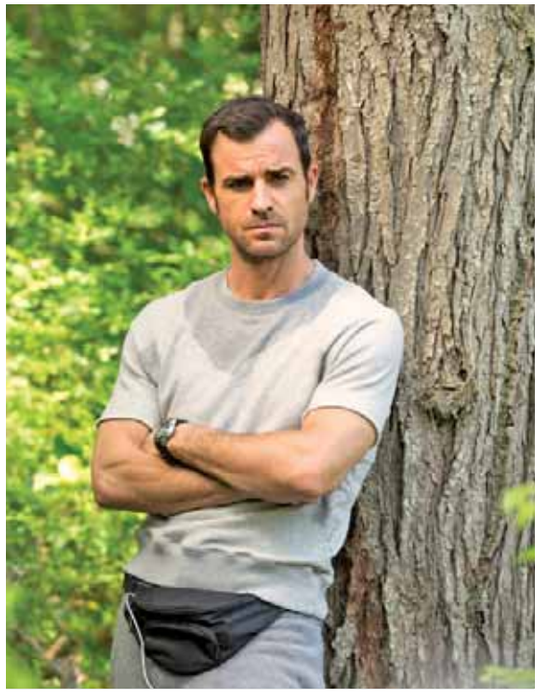
But the little mysteries always had earthly explanations.

The show meted out details until they were solved, and the collective "Ohhh" you heard echoing through the televerse was earned.

Mulling over episode six (which I did a lot this week — one pleasure of not binge watching), I'd decided there was a sad grandeur to Kevin's killing himself.

He'd always struggled to continue living in a "normal" way, to resist the lunacy around him, to solve the mysteries.

Then he bought into one, to the extent that he believed he could return from death.



Kevin Garvey's death could have been a moment to explore mortality. But no. HANDOUT

For a few minutes we viewers held our breath.

When he died, this realization washed over me: "You bought in, too! Madness is contagious! How brilliant!"

I thought his death had meaning because it illuminated something about being mortal.

But no.

There's an afterlife now. Sigh.

GOSSIP BRIEFS

K-Fed disses Beyonce's looks

When sports blog Terez Owens tweeted about Beyoncé and Jay Z attending the Canelo vs. Cotto boxing match in Las Vegas this weekend, noted ex-husband of Britney Spears Kevin Federline decided it was the perfect opportunity to offer his unsolicited opinion about Bey's features. "She looked Botoxed," he tweeted. "So sad when a beautiful woman chops and screws her face up with Botox and surgery," followed by "#sawface." NED EHRBAR/FOR METRO HOLLYWOOD

Will RiRi drop album on Tidal?

Rihanna fans have been speculating about when her next album will drop for months, and it seems that the wait may soon be over. Twitter is abuzz saying she will release a new album this Friday exclusively on Tidal and then release it on iTunes Dec. 4. With Apple Music courting celebrities such as Drake and Taylor Swift — both of whom dropped their albums early on the music service — it would be a bold move for Rihanna. The album — which will be called Anti — will be Rihanna's first album since 2012's Unapologetic and will include her three current singles. EMILY LAURENCE/METRO NEW YORK

WOMANHOOD

Jolie Pitt is all about menopause

Ned Ehrbar
Metro | Hollywood

It turns out Angelina Jolie Pitt — who has never shied away from talking about anything, even a double mastectomy — has found a new facet of womanhood to promote and take the stigma away from, and it's the change.

"I actually love being in menopause," the 40-year-old actress and director tells the Telegraph.

And if you think 40 is a bit young, she explains that her surgeries to prevent ovarian and breast cancer caused physical changes that triggered it earlier than might otherwise have happened.

"I haven't had a terrible reaction to it, so I'm very fortunate. I feel older and I feel settled being older. I feel happy that I've grown up. I don't want to be young again."

We get it, Angie. There isn't anything out there you can't be cool with.

Angelina Jolie Pitt in By the Sea. The 40-year-old actor/director says she "loves" being in menopause. HANDOUT

JON SNOW

Game of Thrones teases with poster

Ned Ehrbar
Metro | Hollywood

Just when all that silly speculation about whether or not Jon Snow is alive on Game of Thrones had finally started to die down, HBO has to go and revive it all anew with a promotion for the show.

A tantalizing new poster for the hit show's sixth season shows a monochromatic close-up image of Snow (Kit Harington) with his face pointing downward and splattered with red blood.

It doesn't necessarily say he's alive, but it at least suggests he'll play a role in the new season.

But we'll have to wait an exceedingly, annoyingly long time to find out what's going on, as the poster's lone, concrete piece of information — the word "April" — tells us.

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UBC DENTISTRY | THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

metro SPORT

Sharks goaltender Martin Jones was named the NHL's first star of the week after going 3-0-0 with a 1.63 GAA and a shutout

Sedins are Canucks' silver lining

NHL

Twins' displays light up a bad month, record is 3 wins from 11

Cam Tucker
Metro | Vancouver

Canucks' Daniel Sedin, left, celebrates his third goal of the game with teammate and brother Henrik Sedin against the Chicago Blackhawks. The twins' form has lifted the average Canucks this season. RICH LAM/GETTY IMAGES

First, the good news: Daniel Sedin was on Monday named the National Hockey League's second star for last week after scoring five goals and seven points.

He not only reached beyond the career threshold of 900 points, but scored a hat trick against the Chicago Blackhawks on Saturday.

Celebration — or lack of one — for the latter accomplishment has apparently sparked yet another identity crisis for the local fan base because only a single, solitary hat was reportedly thrown onto the ice when Sedin scored his third goal that evening. (*Gasp* No!)

The bad news: November.

This month is turning disastrous for the Canucks. They've won only three times.

The latest loss came Sunday to the New Jersey Devils, in which Vancouver went unsuccessful on six of seven power play chances and when they finally ratcheted up some pressure, they couldn't beat their old teammate Cory Schneider. Having just passed the quarter mark of the season, the Canucks sit third in a mostly mediocre Pacific Division.

They head out on a four-game road trip that begins Wednesday against the Minnesota Wild.

If there's a silver lining, the Sedin twins, at the age of 35, continue to produce. Daniel Sedin, with his recent run, is fifth in the league with 23 points. Brother Henrik is 11th with 21 points.

But defensively, the Canucks have been a massive project in their own end.

Perhaps that is a byproduct of trying to get younger, with two 19-year-old forwards (Jared McCann and Jake Virtanen) and a 22-year-old defenceman (Ben Hutton, currently out two weeks with an injury) in the lineup and added responsibility for 20-year-old sophomore centre Bo Horvat.

They sit 21st in the NHL in goals-against per game.

Over the course of their November struggles, the Canucks have lost six times by just one goal, given up late goals to lose out on a single point, and have been unable to score in overtime, going 0-for-6 in the new three-on-three format.

It all amounts to a middling 8-8-6 record, just beyond the quarter mark.

TEAM NEWS

The Canucks on Monday recalled defenceman Andrey Pedan from the AHL's Utica Comets, and reassigned Taylor Fedun back to their farm club in Utica.

In 15 games this season, the 22-year-old Pedan has one goal and seven points, which is halfway to his AHL career high of 14 set last year in Utica. He has yet to play a game in the NHL.

The Canucks acquired Pedan, listed at six-foot-five-inches tall and 215 pounds, last November in a trade with the New York Islanders.

CAM TUCKER/METRO

CFL

Report: Tedford contacted about return to college football

B.C. Lions head coach Jeff Tedford watches practice during training camp in Kamloops, B.C., in June. CAM TUCKER/METRO

Will Jeff Tedford be the head coach of the B.C. Lions in 2016?

A 7-11 record in his first year with the Leos may have been enough last week to cast just a smidgen of doubt, and even Lions general manager Wally Buono said after another disappointing playoff loss that it would be premature to say if "anybody" would be back.

This week, however, started with a report from the NFL Network's Ian Rapoport, stating "search firms" had contacted Tedford to gauge his interest in returning to the U.S. college ranks.

> **"I can't speak for Jeff other than when I spoke to him today, there was no indication that any contact was made.**
> Lions general manager Wally Buono

Last December, the Lions hired Tedford, signing him to a two-year deal.

He has one more year remaining on that contract.

Buono told TSN 1040 that Tedford does not have an out clause in his deal to return to the NFL or college football.

"I can't speak for Jeff other than when I spoke to him today, there was no indication that any contact was made," Buono told TSN 1040.

"From my understanding, the protocol isn't to contact the person, individually. It's usually to contact a representative or people like that."

Buono later added it might be possible Tedford could resign in order to take a coaching position down south.

A phone message left with Tim Younger, listed in other media publications as Tedford's agent, had yet to be returned by Monday's deadline.

Last week, Tedford said "as of right now" he planned to be with the Lions for the full two years of his deal.

"My focus all along has been on what we're trying to get done here," Tedford said.

CAM TUCKER/METRO

IN BRIEF

Davis Cup set to go ahead amid terror alert in Belgium

The International Tennis Federation says the Davis Cup final is set to go ahead as planned in Ghent this weekend with increased security measures because of the terror alert in Belgium.

Belgium hosts Britain in the three-day final, starting Friday. Ghent is 56 kilometres from Brussels, which is on the highest state of alert because of what the Belgian government calls a "serious and imminent" threat. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Blatter visited by 'angels' during hospital stay

Without specifying his illness, Sepp Blatter said in a TV interview that he was near death when hospitalized for stress-related problems this month.

The suspended FIFA president was "between the angels singing and the devil's fire," he told Swiss broadcaster RTS after leaving hospital on Nov. 12. "Happily, I never lost consciousness" when most ill, he added. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

M's add to catcher depth

Chris Iannetta has signed a one-year contract with the Seattle Mariners, giving the club additional options at catcher. Seattle announced the signing Monday.

Iannetta spent the past four seasons with the Los Angeles Angels but struggled at the plate in 2015, hitting just .188 with 10 homers and 34 RBIs. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Olympic draw suits Canada

WOMEN'S SOCCER

Canucks top seed in group; Herdman says it's 'ours to lose'

Canada received a favourable draw Monday in its road to the Olympic women's soccer tournament.

The Canadian women, ranked 11th in the world, were drawn in Group B in Houston with No. 48 Trinidad & Tobago, No. 84 Guatemala and No. 92 Guyana for the Feb. 10-21 CONCACAF qualifier.

The top-ranked United States, as host country, was placed in Group A in Frisco, Texas, with No. 26 Mexico, No. 34 Costa Rica and No. 115 Puerto Rico. The two finalists will represent North and Central America and the Caribbean at the 2016 Games in Rio de Janeiro in the 12-team Olympic field.

The Americans got the tougher pool but should not be troubled given their status as reigning world champion, with an 18-0-4 record since their last loss — 2-0 to France in February.

As the 11th-ranked team in the world, Canada is the favourite to emerge from its CONCACAF qualifying group. MINAS PANAGIOTAKIS/GETTY IMAGES

The Americans have been to all five women's Olympic soccer tournaments, winning gold four times, including the last three competitions. Canada won bronze in 2012 and finished eighth in 2008 after losing to the U.S. in the quarter-finals.

Monday's draw likely sets up a final between Canada and the U.S. The Canadians, who will look to win their pool to avoid meeting the U.S. prior to the final, will probably have to get past Mexico in the semifinal.

Canadian coach John Herdman said Canada will be favoured in its group given its blend of experience and young talent.

"When you put that together we are the strongest team in the group, we should be," he told a conference call after the draw.

"I don't think we can take any team in our group likely. There's definitely some challenges in there.
John Herdman

"And it's ours to lose."

He called the draw "a bit of a surprise, but it was a nice surprise at the same time." The Canadians will take nothing for granted, he added.

"I don't think we can take any team in our group likely. There's definitely some challenges in there."

Canada will open Feb. 11 against Guyana before facing Trinidad & Tobago on Feb. 14 and Guatemala on Feb. 16. THE CANADIAN PRESS

NBA

LeBron joins Big O on exclusive statistics list

No player in NBA history stuffed a stat sheet quite like Oscar Robertson. The "Big O" was a triple-double machine.

On Monday night, LeBron James moved into his rarefied air.

James joined Robertson on an exclusive list and Kevin Love scored a season-high 34 points as the Cleveland Cavaliers remained unbeaten at home with a 117-103 win over the Orlando Magic.

James had 15 points and 13 assists and joined the legendary Robertson as the only players in history to rank in the top 25 in career points and assists.

"He's a guy who laid the foundation," James said of Robertson, "and I'm just trying to carry it on."

With his fifth assist, James moved past Norm Nixon (6,386) into 25th place and moved alongside Robertson, who finished his Hall of Fame career with 26,710 points and 9,887 assists. James will soon eclipse Robertson's scoring total and the unselfish superstar is a good bet to pass him on the assist list as well. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

HIGH SCORERS

James needs six points to surpass Reggie Miller (25,279) for 18th place on the career scoring list.

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RECIPE One-Pot Chicken & Tomato Pasta

PHOTO: MAYA VISNYEI

Ceri Marsh & Laura Keogh
For Metro Canada

This may be the simplest pasta recipe ever but it doesn't scrimp on flavour. And it only dirties one pot so it's basically perfection in the form of dinner.

Ready in
Prep time: 30 minutes
Serves 4

Ingredients
- 1 Tbsp olive oil
- 4 skinless, boneless chicken breasts, cubed
- 2 cloves garlic, minced
- 2 cups mushrooms, sliced
- 1 Tbsp fresh Thyme
- 1/2 cup white wine
- 1/2 cup chicken stock (or 1 cup of stock if you don't have or feel like using wine)
- 1 x 28 oz can of whole tomatoes
- 1 cup water
- 225 grams of dried pasta
- Salt and pepper to taste
- 1/2 cup mozzarella

Directions
1. Warm up your olive oil in a large, deep skillet over medium heat. Brown the chicken (you may need to work in batches).
2. Once all the meat is nicely browned (but not cooked through), add the garlic, thyme and mushrooms and let them soften up and kick off their juices. Now add the wine and/or stock, water and tomatoes. Break the tomatoes up with the back of a wooden spoon.
3. Bring the sauce to a bubbly simmer and add your pasta. As the pasta softens up in the heat, push it under the liquid. Depending on which pasta you're using it will take about 15 to 20 minutes. Taste and check seasoning.
3. Top with a big handful of mozzarella.

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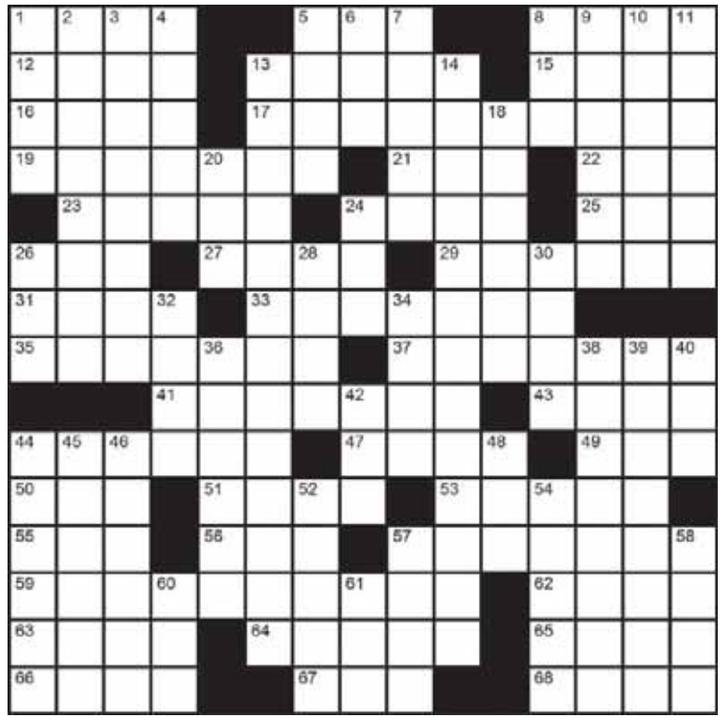
CROSSWORD Canada Across and Down

BY KELLY ANN BUCHANAN



ACROSS
1. A few
5. Set-__ (Arguments)
8. Sailboat part
12. Division
13. Mr. Fiennes of flicks
15. Regarding: 2 wds.
16. Mr. Voisine, Canadian singer
17. As per #41-Across... Is an alumnus of The Second City comedy troupe
19. Touch up/intensify
21. Boucherville buddy
22. 'Tsar' suffix (Russian empress)
23. Showbiz personality Ms. Shore
24. Perfectly, to __
25. Luba of "Royal Canadian Air Farce"
26. Zig's pal
27. Calligrapher's props
29. J.R., Sue Ellen and Bobby
31. Classic range cookers
33. Observes
35. Flamboyance
37. Like a not-erupting volcano
41. "Cityline" guest expert Ms. Smith (More at #17-Across and #14-Down!)
43. TV fuzz
44. Apple drinks
47. Care-_-__ (Care Bears home)
49. Dove's patter
50. Egg mass
51. Mormon Tabernacle Choir's state
53. Canadian singer Ms. Ord
55. Halifax's famous madam Ms. McCallum (b.1909 - d.1986)
56. Roman sun deity
57. Witty comeback
59. Triumphant
62. Use a wooden spoon
63. Strong as __ __
64. Marina vessel
65. Joy of Cooking author, __ S. Rombauer
66. Camp shelter
67. Bering, e.g.
68. Blinkers

DOWN
1. Certain
2. People of the Hills... One of the nations of the Haudenosaunee Confederacy
3. Madonna's home state
4. Mr. Hawke
5. Gentle
6. Raine Maida's band [acronym]
7. Mother Goose guy Jack
8. Avril's follower
9. Allocate
10. Dictation-taker, for short
11. Not yet tomorrow's
13. Like Canada's storied past: 3 wds.
14. Profession of #41-Across: 2 wds.
18. TV show fan
20. Book publisher, __ A. Talese
24. Prince Edward Island hrs.
26. Handle a laser
28. Second __ War (1899 to 1902 conflict)
30. Belief systems
32. Equivalent
34. Variant-spelled pastoral poem
36. Legendary tenor Enrico
38. Genealogist's specialty
39. Midday
40. One-plus-One
42. Sixth music syllable, variantly
44. Dapper piece of neckwear
45. Scrape application
46. Cleric with a wooden bench
48. Dance style
52. __ Grace (1996 Margaret Atwood novel)
54. Actress Ms. Perez
57. Industrial region of Germany
58. Ages
60. 'Plain' computer file extension
61. Calendar mo.

IT'S ALL IN THE STARS by Sally Brompton

Aries March 21 - April 20
Someone you have always thought of as a rival will surprise you today by saying something that makes you feel good. Is it some kind of trick? No it is not. They really do want to be nice to you. Be nice in return.

Taurus April 21 - May 21
What happens today will convince you that what you've been working on is not what you should be doing. Now you're free to pursue something that is much more true to you.

Gemini May 22 - June 21
This is a good time for relationships, especially those that come from the heart. Today, give everything you have got and you will get it back in multitudes.

Cancer June 22 - July 23
If someone you thought you could trust has been telling tales about you behind your back then by all means cut your links with them. But make sure you know all the facts first.

Leo July 24 - Aug. 23
Do only what you want to do. The Sun in Sagittarius at this time of year means it's so easy to have fun, so get out and about, see and be seen and do something truly amazing.

Virgo Aug. 24 - Sept. 23
Important people are watching you and they will like what they see. They will like it even more if you give the impression that you are a team player and not just someone who is in it for themselves.

Libra Sept. 24 - Oct. 23
Your confidence will soar over the next few days and with both Mars and Venus moving through your sign a breakthrough of some kind cannot be far away.

Scorpio Oct. 24 - Nov. 22
If you get more than you deserve there's a cosmic reason for it. Could it be you did a favour for someone earlier in the year and, being the modest person you are, forgot about it? The universe never forgets.

Sagittarius Nov. 23 - Dec. 21
Ignore those who seem to enjoy preaching doom and disaster. Be positive and hope that your can-do attitude rubs off on those who seem to enjoy being negative.

Capricorn Dec. 22 - Jan. 20
The more you have been frustrated in the past the more you will enjoy yourself now. Appreciate your moment in the spotlight but remember: modesty is always attractive — and less likely to make you a target!

Aquarius Jan. 21 - Feb. 19
If you want to make a name for yourself it won't be too difficult. Today's Mars-Saturn link will bring out your ambitious side. You're on your way to the top.

Pisces Feb. 20 - March 20
Everything you believe in is being put to the test. It may be a painful process but it needs to happen so that you can reach a better understanding of who you really are.

CONCEPTIS SUDOKU by Dave Green

Every row, column and box contains 1-9

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	6						7	
			3		2		5	
9								8
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2		4		8		7		6

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Your daily crossword and Sudoku answers.

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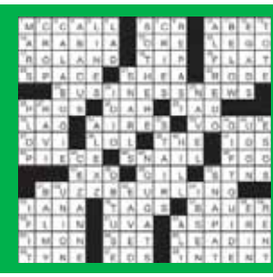

3	4	1	2	8	7	6	9	5
5	8	6	9	4	1	2	3	7
2	7	9	6	3	5	8	4	1
6	3	4	8	1	9	5	7	2
8	9	2	5	7	4	1	6	3
7	1	5	3	6	2	9	8	4
9	5	8	4	2	3	7	1	6
1	6	3	7	5	8	4	2	9
4	2	7	1	9	6	3	5	8

BLACK FRIDAY EVENT

GET **20%** OF MSRP = UP TO **$12,218** CASH CREDIT

ON SELECT 2015 MODELS IN STOCK THE LONGEST*.

CASH CREDIT ON **SILVERADO LD CREW HIGH COUNTRY**

ONLY 6 DAYS LEFT!

ALL REMAINING

2015 SPARK

E.g. 20% = UP TO $3,449 CASH CREDIT

ON SPARK 1LT CVT
$17,245 MSRP

ALL REMAINING

2015 SONIC

E.g. 20% = UP TO $3,899 CASH CREDIT

SONIC LT AUTO
$19,495 MSRP

ALL REMAINING

2015 CRUZE

E.g. 20% = UP TO $4,764 CASH CREDIT

CRUZE LT AUTO WITH REMOTE STARTER
$23,820 MSRP

ALL REMAINING

2015 MALIBU

E.g. 20% = UP TO $5,751 CASH CREDIT

MALIBU LT WITH POWER CONVENIENCE PACKAGE
$28,755 MSRP

ON SELECT

2015 IMPALA

E.g. 20% = UP TO $7,410 CASH CREDIT

IMPALA 2LT WITH PREMIUM SEATING, SAFETY & CONVENIENCE PACKAGE
$37,050 MSRP

ALL REMAINING

2015 CAMARO

E.g. 20% = UP TO $9,580 CASH CREDIT

CAMARO 2SS AUTO WITH RS PACKAGE
$47,900 MSRP

ALL REMAINING

2015 TRAX

E.g. 20% = UP TO $5,242 CASH CREDIT

TRAX 1LT AWD
$26,210 MSRP

ON SELECT

2015 EQUINOX

E.g. 20% = UP TO $6,354 CASH CREDIT

EQUINOX 1LT AWD
$31,770 MSRP

ON SELECT

2015 TRAVERSE

E.g. 20% = UP TO $8,193 CASH CREDIT

TRAVERSE 1LT AWD TRUE NORTH EDITION
$40,965 MSRP

ON SELECT

2015 SILVERADO CREW CAB

E.g. 20% = UP TO $12,218 CASH CREDIT

ON A SILVERADO LD CREW HIGH COUNTRY
$61,090 MSRP

ALL REMAINING

2015 SILVERADO DOUBLE CAB

E.g. 20% = UP TO $11,073 CASH CREDIT

ON A SILVERADO DOUBLE CAB 2LZ
$55,365 MSRP

FIND NEW ROADS™ / CHEVROLET.CA

ALL 2015s COME WITH CHEVROLET COMPLETE CARE: 2 YEARS/40,000 KM COMPLIMENTARY OIL CHANGES** / 5 YEARS/160,000 KM POWERTRAIN WARRANTY** / 5 YEARS/160,000 KM ROADSIDE ASSISTANCE**

CHEVROLET

ON NOW AT YOUR BC CHEVROLET DEALERS. Chevrolet.ca 1-800-GM-DRIVE. Chevrolet is a brand of General Motors of Canada. Offers apply to the cash purchase of a 2015 Impala, Equinox, Traverse, Silverado LD Crew, Silverado HD with gas engine, Spark, Sonic, Cruze, Malibu, Camaro, Trax and Silverado Double Cab. License, insurance, registration, administration fees, dealer fees, PPSA and taxes not included. Dealers are free to set individual prices. Limited time offers which may not be combined with other offers, and are subject to change without notice. Offers apply to qualified retail customers in BC Chevrolet Dealer Marketing Association area only. Dealer trade may be required. * Applies to oldest 15% of dealer inventory on Impala, Equinox, Traverse, Silverado LD Crew and Silverado HD Gas models as of November 10th 2015 and all remaining 2015 Spark, Sonic, Cruze, Malibu, Camaro, Trax and Silverado Double Cab. Valid November 13 to 30, 2015 on cash purchases of select vehicles from dealer inventory. Not compatible with special lease and finance rates. Credit is tax exclusive and is calculated on vehicle MSRP, excluding any dealer-installed options. By selecting lease or finance offers, consumers are foregoing this cash credit which will result in higher effective interest rates. Dealer may sell for less. Offer may not be combined with certain other consumer incentives. GM Canada may modify, extend or terminate this offer, in whole or in part, at any time without notice. See dealer for details. ** The 2-Year Scheduled Lube-Oil-Filter Maintenance Program provides eligible customers in Canada, who have purchased or leased a new eligible 2015 MY Chevrolet (excluding Spark EV), with an ACDelco® oil and filter change, in accordance with the oil life monitoring system and the Owner's Manual, for 2 years or 40,000 km, whichever occurs first, with a limit of four (4) Lube-Oil-Filter services in total, performed at participating GM dealers. Fluid top offs, inspections, tire rotations, wheel alignments and balancing, etc. are not covered. This offer may not be redeemed for cash and may not be combined with certain other consumer incentives available on GM vehicles. General Motors of Canada Company reserves the right to amend or terminate this offer, in whole or in part, at any time without prior notice. Additional conditions and limitations apply. See dealer for details. ^^ Whichever comes first. See dealer for details.